Howland Wood - Curatorial

Pradeau, Alberto Francisco, Dr.

[Los Angeles, CA]

1930 - 1935

PRADEAU, DR. A. F.

1930-1937

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

Nov. 29, 1930.

Mr. Wood:—

Your note of the 23rd. with the two specimens arrived Wednesday afternoon. That evening and yesterday, I compared the Philip one with half reals and the dimentions seem to be the same. I have several varieties but none so well struck as yours. The clipping is without doubt contemporary and I am at a loss as to its intended value. Its thickness would indicate a coin of larger value, that is ½ real although its size (diameter) makes it appear ¼ real. The weight compares favorable with some of my worn ½ real pieces. My records state clearly and specifically that no ¼ real pieces were coined for 240 years and the several authors that can be consulted on the subject agree that this was the case. I would suggest that ~~if~~ there is any doubt in your mind that we write a short paragraph illustrating this interesting piece as well, indicating that possibly one-fourth real pieces existed, required in commercial transactions, a sort of necessity coinage which circulated with the knowledge but not the official sanction of the viceregal government. The castle and lion coin with the heavy, rope like border is in my humble opinion the one we should illustrate and label as the early silver cuartillos of 155--1555.

My previous two letters are by this time in your hands and I am eager to hear from you further. It is a pleasure to be called down on simple errors or facts by a man of your caliber.

Sincerely yours.

A F Pradeau

TELEPHONE VAndike 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

October 30th, 1933.

Mr. Howland Wood,
c/o The American Numismatic Society,
Broadway and 156th Street.
New York City.

Sir:-

For several months past I have been in correspondence with Mr. Noe regarding a monograph on the Coinage of the State of Sonora, Mexico, which includes the mints of Hermosillo and Alamos.

Nothing has ever been published about these mints and I thought that this monograph could be published in Spanish as well as English.

The Spanish version is now ready, and upon the recommendation of Mr. Arthur C. Wyman, of Los Altos, I now write to you in search of advise as to what would be the best course to follow to accomplish the end desired.

I trust that you will favor me with an answer, for I know that I could not call upon better informed men than you and Mr. Noe.

Many thanks for your courtesy,

Sincerely,

A. F. Pradeau

November 6, 1933.

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Building
756 South Broadway
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

Your letter just at hand and Mr. Noe and I see no objection to your printing the Spanish edition of your Mexican article provided it did not come out before our English edition. As our publication money is expressly for the purposes of original material, if the Spanish edition came first it might be constructed that the English edition was not the original. We would not attempt any Spanish edition as we have no facilities for distributing or marketing such an edition.

Awhile ago in connection with my article on Mexican Revolutionists we took up the subject with some Mexicans for a Spanish edition. The museum there employed a man to translate my article and then decided that there would not be enough sale to warrant a version in Spanish. A little later a man by the name of Garza together with A. Frank published an English edition in Mexico with a supplementary notes to my article. They contemplated one in Spanish and gave it up feeling that there would be no especial sale for the Spanish translation Unless you have better information than we have we think you would entail a loss if you should do the same.

Very truly yours,

H :JG

Curator

TELEPHONE VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

November 14th, 1933.

Mr. Howland Wood,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Wood:-

I have read with interest your letter of the 6th, instant, and I have studied the points mentioned thoroughly, and for the time being the Spanish edition of the manuscript shall remain in my files.

Many thanks to both of you for your kind and sensible advise.

My best regards to you and to Mr. Noe.

Cordially yours,

A. F. Pradeau

December 12, 1934.

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Building
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

As promised you sometime ago I am enclosing photographs of the early 3 real piece. The one with the hole is in the Society's collection and the other one belongs to Mr. Julius Guttag. I expect to get within a few days the 2 Maravedi piece and will photograph this later.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

December 27, 1934.

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Building
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

We have just gotten around to photographing that 2 Maravidi piece owned by Guttag. I am herewith enclosing photo of same. I have examined it very carefully and I think it was struck on this side of the world rather than Spain but this is only personal opinion. You will note that instead of two pillars of Hercules there is only one. The inscription on each side stands for Plus Ultra. Unfortunately the letter or symbol on the other side of the column from the M cannot be made out. At the bottom appears to be the pomegranate.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

January 4th, 1935.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

Your letters of the 12th and 27th of December last were received and with them the photographs of the three reales and two maravedies pieces.

I wish to express my gratitude for your kindness and to congratulate you on the beautiful reproductions that you department is able to make.

Very unfortunately only one photograph arrived of the two maravedies piece. It shows the castle with the three towers and the word HISPAN... on the upper right hand segment of the border. The other side, the one with the pillar is the one that most likely was left on the desk inadvertently. Would you be so kind as to look for it?

On December 12th last it was my pleasure to send to our Society my manuscript on the "Numismatic History of Mexico" - most of it unrevised - but I thought that a few remarks from you, would help and guide me. I trust that you will not hesitate in expressing your opinion as freely as you wish. - Coming from you I would appreciate them inmensely.

My best wishes for a successful and prosperous year,

Cordially yours,

A. F. Pradeau

January 11, 1935.

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Building
756 South Broadway
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

I am herewith sending you duplicate photographs of the 2 maravedies pieces. I cannot understand how you did not get both of these before.

Since you wrote, I think Mr. Noe has explained very fully our views on your manuscript. I have not had a chance to read his letter to you but I think he embodied all the ideas that I outlined to him. I will write you again if I think of anything else.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

January 16, 1935.

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Building
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

In looking over Mr. Noe's letter to you of January 3rd I noted that he did not include one or two of the details I outlined to him, namely I think more should be made of the coins of Charles and Johanna, either listing or trying to explain the various letters at side of shield, in addition to the mint mark. Also, the cob pieces up to the time of the round coins are for the most part undated and it is extremely hard to differeniate one ruler from another, especially as the name of the King around the edge is often obliterated or fragmentary. There is enough difference in the die work to probably assign these chronologically, especially if the additional mint letters are taken up. I suppose these stand for either one or two of those in charge of the mint.

Also, the various counterstamps of the first revolutionary period should be taken up a little further. You have done extremely well and I have already gotten a good deal of information. I think a little more concentration on these with collectors of Mexico would bring out more light. These pieces especially are most interesting and collectors are after these more than many of the other pieces.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

VAndike 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 Chapman Building
756 South Broadway
Los Angeles

January 26th, 1935.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

This letter addressed to you is also in answer to Mr. Noe's of the third instant. First of all I wish to convey to you that I thoroughly appreciate the suggestions offered by Mr. Noe in his letter of the third and yours of the sixteenth. You demanded, so to speak, something that I had been searching for without being able to find a suitable answer for six months or more. I shall now enter into more minute details in the hope that your knowledge and experience will again come to my rescue.

1 - Charles and Johanna - Listing and trying to explain the various letters at the side of the shield.-I have searched in all contemporary books that might throw some light on who the mint masters, assayers or engravers were, and besides what Medina and Herrera found I have been able to add one or two more but that is all. This phase of the work, I fear, will have to stand until such a time when the archives of the Indies in Seville or Madrid are thoroughly catalogued or when it becomes my privilege to expend unlimited time at the above mentioned places, and if there, I am sure I would find the information. To catalogue them would be to repeat Mr. Guttag's work.

2 - The cob pieces - For more than four and a half months I have been studying Spanish heraldry without any noticeable numismatic gain. I wish to call your attention to Herrera's "El Duro" pages 14 - 15 - 17 - 215 - 216 - 217, etc. in which he definitly states that the coat of arms as shown in the coins of Philip II, the Third, the Fourth, Charles the Second, and Philip the Fifth, was the same, not in all specimens coined but in the great majority. I have had all the coat of arms photographed and intend to use them in some manner, but I am at a loss, and once more I fear that very little more information will come from me for these reigns.

3 - Coins and CS. of the Revolutionary war 1810-1821 - Under this same cover I am including the revised sheets for this period (also sheets covering the Iturbide's short lived empire). As you can see, it has improved the original draft a little but not much. This is,however, original research and absolutely nothing has ever been published ~~either~~ in the official records of Mexico, either revolutionary or royalist, or in any other place. Therefore, I cannot add a single thing to what I am now sending you. I could improve the draft by adding more historical facts or at least in more detail but I feel that the average collector would want their information well condensed, and I have tried to be brief. The ilustrations, of course, will add greatly to the reading matter.

Mr. Wood, N.Y. - No. 2

4 - Mint masters Initials - For two years or more I have worked incesantly on it and I have a nearly complete list of mint masters Initials. I lack very few for the republican period of 1821 to date and as soon as possible I shall send you a list of the unknown ones and from your extensive collection, you no doubt, will be able to help me out. Very conscientiously I have tried to obtain the names the initials represent but only on isolated instances have I succeeded. (List enclosed - please fill in as many as possible.)

5 - Illustrations - In my letter of the fourth instant I mentioned that my collection was quite complete and that I had had photographs made for practically everyone of the pieces mentioned in the manuscript. To this I must add that those concerning the, to me, doubtful period of Phillip II to the first reign of Philip the V, I have only used perfect specimens as found in the different works consulted to which due credit will be given. Of this period I have no gold coins and I would like to call upon you for assistance. As for the rest my collection is very complete in all metals. (1738 to date)

6 - Assistance as could be obtained from collectors in Mexico. The very few collectors in Mexico know little or nothing about Mexican numismatics. I have been in touch with them for the past six or seven years and I have their statements in black and white that they do not own a single book. At this point it is well that I mention that for twenty-eight years I have been a student of Mexican history. I have nearly two thousand volumes in my library relating to Mexican history and from them I have obtained the information that has been written in my manuscript. Day after day I make new purchases and from here and there I am able to obtain one or two bits of information.

7 - Engravers or Officials connected with the mint in early days. As mentioned before, this list will be given as complete as it can be obtained, but it skips so that easily two hundred years are not accounted for. (approx.)

8 - Insufficiency of prominence given to coins - As each specimen considered will be illustrated, either from an actual coin or from a pen an ink drawing, I thought unnecessary to describe it minutely except in the rare issues. As I consider my work a historical one and not a catalogue I have given greater importance to the historical side, so that the book or books could be used as reference works. Due to my knowledge and interest of Mexican history I may have been too extensive on the economical and historical phases of it, but in each instance I have tried to make the reading of the material attractive, inserting bits of laughable incidents here and there, to make the subject matter less dry. This, can be reduced to a minimum and I await your suggestions.

9 - The point of dividing the work into three parts is perfectly agreeable with me.

I have attempted to cover all the points mentioned in your respective letters and I only wish to add that on the reigns of the colonial period there will be a revised set of sheets sent to you as soon as possible. The ones you have, I believe, were marked incomplete.

The different types known for each reign will be taken up and as much data incorporated under each one as it is possible to obatin in the books written in French, English, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian or Latin, that I own or I am able to borrow. The photographs are in (complete) sets beginning with the eight reales to the smallest.- The same applies to the gold or copper when copper was issued.

As to my trip to New york, it is at present quite out of the question, for, frankly speaking I haven't a sou, as I have spent all my money buying books and coins, having photographs made, etc.

This letter has become much longer than it was expected but I felt it necessary to explain every point in detail - to let you know of the many difficulties that I have to surmount - and to show you, that I consider your suggestions very valuable and worthy of all my consideration and gratitude.

Please favor me with a detailed answer of more suggestions which my arguments, as presented in this letter, might suggest to you.

Cordially yours,

A. Radeau

Regarding the Alamos and Hermosillo monograph.

P.S. - From correspondence received I have found that one and two and a half pesos in gold were minted in Alamos. This as well as the amount of copper coined could be corrected in a fly leaf that could be sent out with the next publication. If you approve of the idea, please let me know and I shall get ready the corrections giving the page and source.

February 27, 1935.

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Building
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

Please pardon the delay in answering your last letter. The fact of the matter is I have been jumping from one thing to another that required immediate attention. I am returning to you your yellow sheet and have been able to add only two or three mint initials. I have studied over your new manuscripts and want to compliment you on the new finds and additions you have made, especially of the revolutionary period. I was hoping, and that only, that you might be able to dig up something concerning the initials on the Charles and Joanna pieces. It might be just as well if you simply gave all of the different letters that have been found on these pieces. I do not think you will get very much from the heraldry and in determining the pieces of the different Philips. I have been meaning to send you impressions about pieces with the rulers I have put against them to see how much you agree with me.

I think it would be well before we go much further to see what photographs you intend to use as illustrations. I am really quite a little surprised at what you say concerning Mexican numismatists. I thought at least that they would have dug into these earlier pieces and found out about them much more than they have. This is all I can write at present as I have been away for several days and have hetnas yet caught up with my mail. I am going through your manuscripts again very shortly.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

March 16th, 1935.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

First of all I wish to thank you for your kindness in looking over the list of mint masters initials and adding a few. In it I find that you have given me M.J. and F.S. for the Guadalajara (Ga.) mint, and I find that I have M.J. for the Guanajuato mint (Go.) Would you be so amiable as to verify this information? There is a possibility that M.J. was at both places during the same year.(1832)

Pertaining to the photographic material that I have as I mentioned in my previous letter, is not prolific in the cob type as I do not care to expend the fabulous sums dealers ask for such pieces, labeling them at their pleasure as belonging to such and such a period. It has been my rule not to purchase any coin of the cob type unless the name of the king and the mint mark was perfectly visible or legible. Therefore my collection is very defficient for the period previous to 1732. The following is a list of photographs that I have:-

Charles and Johana - Two varieties of eight real pieces. While I have a large number of 4, 2, 1 and one half real pieces, these are so dealt with in Guttags work that I did not think it necessary to duplicate it.

Philip II - At least one specimen, four reales variety, with name legible.

Philip III - Eight real pieces dated 1607 and 1618.

Philip IV - Eight real pieces of 1636 and 1642.

Charles II - Eight real pieces of 1674 and 1696.

Philip V - First reign - Eight reales dated 1723.
Second reign - " " " 1727 - 1730.

Louis I - One half real dated 1725 - Eight reales of 1724.

From 1732 to 1821 of the Colonial period I have everything in superb condition in all metals, excepting the two and one escudos of Philip Fifth and Ferdinand VI which unfortunately are holed.

Judging from the letter written by Mr. Noe in January, you intend to include in the first publication everything up to 1821. This means that the revolutionary issues, both royalist and insurgent, shall be included. I have all the illustrations or rather the photographs for such period.

Relating to mint masters initials I am enclosing the first page of my latest research which besides being self explanatory it appears to me to be rather interesting. It will be followed by the initials as found

in the coins, and will be listed, as nearly as possible in chronological order. This is in accordance with your suggestion for which I am quite grateful. Had it not been for you, I would have permitted this portion of the manuscript to go untouched. Now that I have entered into this phase of the work I consider it very important. Allow me to ask you where would you place this additional material in the Colonial period? I have left the paging blank until I consulted with you. It could easily follow the paragraph on the Mint Mark, page 22, and if agreeable, the enclosed page would then become page 23. The following pages are not quite ready.

Once more I consider it a privilege to thank you for your valuable suggestions. Both you and Mr. Noe have been very kind and I gratefully acknowledge it. Future corrections, suggestions or inquiries will be accepted in the same spirit, therefore, let them come. Right here, it is well that I mention that I have worked so long and so conscientiously on the subject of Mexican coinage that I do not doubt that in many instances I have not made the subject clear and it is not only possible but probable that in the compilation of this work, coming as it does from innumerable sources, that gross errors have escaped my attention, as it frequently happens regardless of how carefully one works. And now that you know how I feel I hope that you will be able to find time to write me and let me know of anything that you find questionable.

As a foot note ~~I had~~ in the last letter I sent you I had a suggestion as to correcting by means of a leaf that could be mailed along with one of your future monographs the two or three errors found in the monograph of the Alamos and Hermosillo mints. As the printed material would not be more than 15 lines I think that the cost would not be over three or four dollars for two or three hundred of them. Kindly let me know your reaction.

Fraternally yours,

A. Pradeau

P.S. - My photographs are like the sample here enclosed I believe reverse and obverse - one of each denomination for each King should be sufficient, don't you?

March 22, 1935.

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Building
Los Angeles, California

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

This letter may be a little rambling but I will try to bring most things up to date. A most peculiar thing about the Ga. piece of 1832! We have a piece with F.S. and another with M.J. Since my last letter to you my assistant has cleaned all of our Mexican silver and after cleaning the Ga. 1832 M.J. piece he showed it to me and said it was a counterfeit made of copper silver-plated from dies as good as the regular pieces. I am enclosing a rubbing of it. You probably have noticed the Ga. pieces are a trifle larger than the Go. pieces. Our counterfiet Ga. is the same size as the Go. pieces. It naturally is lighter, being 4.8 grams less in weight. Now you have got to draw your own conclusions. Either M.J. was at the Ga. mint or either the counterfeitor probably changed things about. On the same sheet I am showing you a U. S. half dollar counterstamped with a peculiar form of M. The other day we received from the Yemen in southern Arabia 27 very crudely cut and stamped pesos of the time of Charles II and two or three of Philip V. Only three showed dates or any ruler. These were keeping. I am enclosing a slip showing the outline of several of these pieces. If you want any you can have them for 50¢ each. All I have now left are those of the Charles II type.

I think we should illustrate as many of the types of cob pieces as possible so as to help collectors distinguish one ruler from another and also I think we should, where we can, explain the differences. On the enclosed sheet I am stating what ones we have that would be good for illustrations. I will shortly photograph these and send them to you so that if you have other or better specimens we should take care of them too.

I am surprised to know you have two 8 real pieces of Charles and Johanna. All I have everyseen is a tough looking cast piece that once belonged to Hill and which Guttag now owns.

I am rereading your manuscript but I do not remember you mentioned the 8 real piece. Mr. Roe and I thought it would be best

to break up your manuscript into two or three sections on account of the small size of our publication. I would r ally like to see it in three parts, that is the Revolutionary period in one, but it is so tied up with the end of the Colonial period I don't see how e can well divide it, while there is a good division where the coinage of Augustin begins.

That was a very good note you sent on concerning the so-called mint master's mark. I think you have hit the logical place to put it, that is following mint marks on page 22.

Mr. Roe is not in today but I will refer that paragraph concerning errors and additions on the Alamos and Hermosillo mints to him.

I think in illustrating the pieces after 1732 there is not quite the need of showing very many, say showing all the sizes of Philip V and then showing one of each type after that, unless for some special reason you want to show some specific differences. I am now rereading your manuscript or rather trying to between various interruptions and will enclose what notes I have made in this letter and will send you on others later.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

March 28th, 1935.

Dear Mr. Wood:-

Your letter of the 22nd has just arrived bearing timely notes of which reference in detail follows.

Page 14 - Tepuzque coinage was originated in Mexico as I explain in paragraph 2 of page 14 - but if you feel that the statement is not clear enough we could easily add "This type of coinage was obsidional specie of New Spain."

Page 17 - As you suggested I have added "from Spain" at the end of the second line.

Page 21 - Have corrected the name Alba de Aliste on line 9 to coincide with line 2.

Page 22 - I have Herrera's El Duro but the specimens mentioned by you did not carry the date except one, and reference to same has been added at the end of paragraph two. The dates listed on pages 215-216-217 and 218 have also been mentioned.

Page 23 - About the appearance of the first copper coins. - Not having found a single reference in all the works consulted and not having seen a specimen attributable to the first copper coinage it would be dangerous to go beyond the assumption that is expressed in the fourth paragraph of the page in question. Have you any suggestions?

Page 24 - The amounts of copper ordered coined. - The amount authorized is correct; as to my assumptions we can change the figures but I believe that some sort of a statement should be made as to the possible way of subdividing the amount authorized and providing we make it plain that it is an assumption or a guess we could change the figures so that the figures would meet with your approval. What I had in mind was to show how many pieces of each denomination could be obtained from each mark.

In connection with the two maravedies pieces I had an artist draw for me a composite picture of what they would look like, using for this purpose the photographs you sent me and the description available. The drawing was photographed and I am including a copy here. I hope it meets with your approval.

In reference to the Guadalajara piece. At about 1832, as shown on page 1 of the Ga. mint unrevised notes, there were some irregularities but these were on gold coins. As can be seen in my notes for the Guanajuato mint, unrevised, you will see that about this time there also was some chicanery. I am inclined to believe that your counterfeit piece was made in the mint of Guanajuato, and as the date, assayers initials and mint mark were removable, it was an easy thing to insert the Ga. initials to impede or deviate investigation.

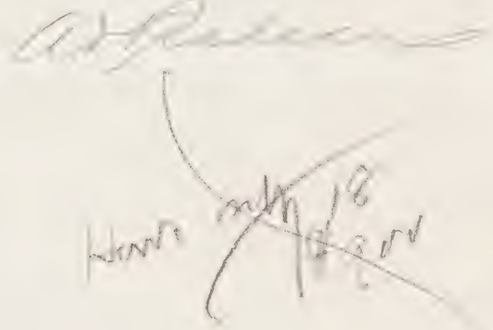
Regarding illustrations - I am glad you have the Charles and Johanna pieces in fine condition. I am enclosing photographs of the supposedly authentic "pieces of eight" for this reign, but as mentioned in my manuscript, pages 27 and 28 they are not in my possesion.

With the specimens that you have and with the photographs that I shall send you as soon as I get them in order, I believe that the coinage of New Spain will be well represented. I agree with you that we ought to include as many cobs as possible to aid collectors in their classification of these pieces, but unless the name is legible I do not think I can properly assign them. As stated under numbers 2 and 5 of my letter of January 26 and again in the second paragraph of my letter of March 16th, I am not able to classify them with certainty. As you know, and as Herrera very clearly shows, the coat of arms varies in the coinage struck for anyone ruler, chiefly the reigns of the Philips, and several kings used similar coat of arms in the coinage emitted. Therefore the only means of identification would be the assayers initials and in these there can be duplications as the son usually took the place of the father when due to age or death the elder was compelled to retire. Having had a number of letters from numismatists calling attention to the two or three errors found in the Alamos Hermosillo monograph I am retiscent to assign doubtful pieces unless we specify that the classification is based on personal belief of the author, whose opinion is corroborated by yours. This would seem that I am trying to shirk the responsibility, and while it may actually mean that, I feel that your knowledge is far superior to mine, therefore, the credit of such classification should go to you.

From your letter I understand that from the 27 cobs you received from Yemen you are keeping three thus leaving a balance of 24 - If this is correct I am enclosing check to pay for them and you can forward the pieces to me at your convenience.

In closing permit me to thank you most sincerely for your additions, suggestions and corrections.

Very truly yours,



VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

April 2 [illegible]

My dear Mr. Wood:—

Under this same cover I am sending, on five additional sheets, the assayers initials as found in the coins, and the name of the assayers.

Please look them over and I shall be glad to have you make as many additions as possible.

Yours sincerely

[illegible]

April 3, 1935.

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Building
756 South Broadway
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

Your letter came yesterday and I have since then been studying it. I will answer some of the previous questions first. What I really meant on page 14 was to see if paragraph four coult not be clarified a little. I realize the Tepuzque was Mexican and the last one Peso de Peso de Oro Castellano was probably Spanish. From whence the other three came was really what I meant. None of these pieces seem to tie up with the two and four tomines you mention in the third paragraph.

Concerning the two Marevedi piece, if you consider the Guttag specimen this piece, I think it would be better to illustrate it rather than the drawing that you have had made. The photographs of the eight real piece you send on our what I thought they might be. I have always considered the ones sometimes illustrated and which you have photographed from the woodcut from Scott's Numismatic Journal of years back as belonging to San Domingo. Unless you are pretty well convinced that it is not for this, island I would exclude this illustration. As a matter of fact Guttag has a four, two and one real of this series with SP on them, which would lead one to think fairly correctly that this was a coinage of some other location such as San Domingo.

The other piece you send a photograph of I certainly would not illustrate. This is the Hill specimen now owned by Guttag, and by the way he did not pay very much for it. It is a rank fake. It is a casting in silver - quite decidedly cleaned up with a graver. The whole appearance of the piece certainly shows it was not cast directly from a real coin but was taken from some specimen that had been carved out by hand, either in metal, wood or plaster of Paris.

I am herewith enclosing photographs we have just made of some of our better silver coins including a one escudo piece of Philip V that you say you lack. You will note that in our Charles and Johanna pieces we lack those where the motto is on a ribbon. I trust you have some of these. These with the three real piece I sent on a while ago keep carefully as

we have no duplicate photographs as good as these. I trust these will help you in illustrating.

Here are a few notes I have made in reading through your manuscript. I note you use the word Maravedies, which is probably correct English, and in the next line you use the word reales, which is Spanish. I think our English equivalent is simply reals. The denominations should be, I think, either in Spanish or English, with preference for the Spanish. On page 28 paragraph 8, are there any of those silver cuartos known today? I think you should state either yes or no.

On page 29, you speak of the changing of the design in 1732 but as not enough dies were sent over they used the old dies for two or three more years. I have seen a large number of cast pieces of the new design dated 1732. In fact, I am enclosing a photograph. Do you consider these cast pieces genuine? My theory would be that on account of lack of dies they used specimens of the old dies as models for casting pieces so as to produce the sufficient coinage for that year. It has always struck me strange that one sees so many cast pieces of this year.

I think that you should say something about those octagonal cast pieces dated 1611 with a cross and mint mark Mo and the word Rei. We have a whole and a half. I never have wanted to condemn them and yet I cannot really think they are real and of the period. Also, those triangular pieces dated 1708 which one sees in silver and in lead. Would not a word also be fitting about the so-called Aztec pieces with all sorts of funny designs that have been floating around in recent years. I think when we make an exhaustive study of a subject we ought to say a few words of condemnation about fake and fanciful pieces. Otherwise they will hover around like ghosts and bother people.

Page 31 - Have you a photograph of the gold of Charles II. I think we could illustrate the one of Philip V that was in the Newcomer sale, Lot 368.

Page 33 - I suppose these columns are in pesos and not dollars. We should state this.

In your note on insurgent provisionals you speak of the first one with PV on it. I am hoping against hope you have a photograph of this.

I sent you yesterday eighteen of those cobs from Yemen. As we had sold several of them I am holding your check until I hear from you, because you are at perfect liberty to send all or any of them back. In other words they are sent on approval and you need show no hesitancy in returning any you wish.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

April 9th, 1935.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

In answer to the first paragraph of your letter of the third instant, permit me to say that the terminology referred to on p. 14 peso comun (scrap gold); peso de oro de minas (miner's gold); and peso ensayado (assayed gold) were imaginary weights or specie used in the mint in transactions involving the respective types of gold.

Concerning the Guttag piece, I am quite positive it is the two maravedi sought, and I agree with you that it should be included in the illustrations, but not being very well defined I thought we could include the composite picture that I sent you. However, if you don't think so it is perfectly alright with me.

In reference to the eight reales pieces I think as you do, and as I say at the end of the first paragraph of page 28 they are crudely made counterfeits.

As to the Charles and Johanna pieces, where the motto is to be found on a ribbon, I have none. Could we use the illustrations in Guttag's book?

I agree with you in that we ought to give the preference to the Spanish denomination of coins, and the words maravedies (plural of maravedi) and reales (plural of real) are correct Spanish words, and if at any time I have used reals (the anglisized form for reales) I have done so unconsciously, and should be changed.

Referring to the second paragraph of page two of your letter, I wish to call your attention to page 41, second paragraph, of the enclosed additions, which varies a little from the information given in the penult/ultimate paragraph of page 29 (old or original numbering) Colonial Period 16, Silver coinage 3, of the pages in your possession . At the bottom of page 41 there is enough space to make some reference as to the cast pieces of 1732 and 1733. I do not consider such pieces genuine. There was absolutely no reason for casting them, and besides it is much more difficult to make a cast piece than it it is to strike one. The dies were there, either of the new or the old design, the machinery was also there, as you can see by the list previously sent, that the coinage for these years did not vary much, so why cast them? I have'nt seen any cast pieces for 1729, and surely then, when the coinage was so increased and they only had one set of dies, that if casting would have helped, they certainly would have recurred to this method. The reason for the cast pieces is the fabulous and fancy prices that pieces for the above mentioned years bring, and of course, this has made it profitable for unscrupulous persons to reproduce such pieces by the casting method. However, before writing anything at bottom of page 41 I would like to have your opinion.

I am sending herewith pages 38 - 39 - 40 - 41 and 43. You will note that page 42 is not there. Page 42 of the manuscript copy that I have here has been made of the photostatic copy of the coinage of Philip V reversing the few introductory words that are at the top. I hope this is clear. The new numbers include the pages that I sent last week.

About the octagonal and triangular pieces. I'll begin writing something about them. The so-called Aztec pieces, popularized by our friend Hill of San Francisco at a dollar per, is another means of bamboozling the unsuspecting and ignorant collectors, and I will be more than glad to make some reference about their ~~procedence~~. Eug.

I am sorry to state that I have no photographs of the gold of Charles II. Your suggestion of illustrating lot 368 of the Newcomer sale is a magnificent one.

Page 33. - Every figure quoted by me in the manuscript stands for Mexican pesos, and it would be wise to make some reference to this so as to have it clear in the minds of readers. In monograph 63 page 18, mention was made that Mexico was on a gold basis and this state of affairs persisted until the depreciation of silver when Mexico definitly and permanently assumed the silver standard. As late as the nineties a Mexican peso was worth as high as $ 1.08 U.S.Cy.

The supposedly obsidional coin of Hidalgo marked P.V. will be photographed and as soon as I get it, I shall send you a print.

The eighteen cobs of Yemen arrived, and I have decided to take them all. Many thanks for the courtesy.

The photographs you were kind enough to send me are excellent. Will you please let me know if you wish them back?

I hope that you have had time to look over the pages 24 to 28 inclusive that I mailed last week. This time I am enclosing five new pages (six with the photostatic copy that you have in the unrevised notes) on the amounts coined in New Spain. I have endeavored to give a short biographical sketch of each monarch to help collectors with the historical background which is often difficult to obtain unless one has access to a library, and also to better understand why the coats of arms are so similar. Quite a number of interesting points surge forth in one's mind when one reads the family trees of the Spanish monarchs. I hope this phase of the work meets with your approval.

Trusting I have answered all the points clearly, and waiting to hear from you soon, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

April 10, 1935.

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Building
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Pradeau:

I have been going over the sheets on your last letter and I am returning them with various comments. I am enclosing rubbings of some pieces to elucidate some of these remarks. I thought first I would transcribe these notes in letter form but thought possibly they might be clearer if I left them on the sheets. I trust you will understand all of them. You will note I have made quite a number of additions. I am going over a second time the sheets you sent a while ago on the War of Independence. I have gotten only a few pages but think I will send you what notes I have now. I have so many interruptions that I cannot stick very long on the same thing.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

April 15th, 1935.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

Your letter and timely notes of the 10th, have received my utmost consideration. I am really amazed at the amount of good information you are able to send me, and when you get through with the manuscript it is going to be as nearly perfect as it is possible for anyone to have. I am delighted, only, I would suggest that we have a preface attached to it, in which I could let the world know of how much help you have been in the preparation of this monograph.

With reference to the sheets 24 to 28 inclusive sent back with corrections and additions. I am having those rewritten and shall send them to you as soon as ready.

In one of your notes I find the following questions:-

Silver cuartillas similar to those minted in Mexico, one with date, and the other without date, but no mint mark. My personal opinion, is that they are not for Mexico, as the ones I have carry the date and the mint mark. It may be possible that the pieces you sent me rubbings of were the very first that were minted in New Spain, sort of trial pieces, which however were minted in large quantities, as practically every collector has them. No one could, with any degree of certainty, deny that such pieces were not for Mexico, but it would be equally difficult to prove that they were minted for Mexico. In as much as we have a number of specimens bearing the mint mark, don't you think one should not speculate?

The one and two reales pieces,,usually plain or smooth, bearing an eagle, holding a serpent with its beak, and by some attributed to Guerrero, an insurgent leader of the Mexican War of Independence. I am thoroughly conversant with the history of Mexico and having made a conscientious study of it for nearly 32 years I can say this much about such pieces that in not a single treatise, numismatic or historic have I found mention made that several Guerrero made or counterstamped coins. On the other hand, I think that you will find that Herrera, in his work "El Duro" has a whole chapter on counterstamps and their origin. I am at the office now, and I am sorry I can not look up this point now, but I believe that he attributes this counterstamp to some other source. The eagle is not typically Mexican as it is not standing upon a nopal (cactus). I shall let you know more definitely later about this.

The war of Independence period. page 5 - line 11 - cast pieces of Vargas - this is a gross error. What I meant was "plain planchets with several counterstamps and silver disks crudely and poorly struck."

The same period, page 3 - The durango coppers are the very ones of which you sent me rubbings of: a crowned monogram (sort of a W with the figure 7 at each end with an "o" super impossed - Octavo de real - Durango. -

The Fonrobert pieces 6470- to 6473 are in my opinion not Mexican pieces. They may have been tokens in circulation in Mexico, but they certainly were not official copper coins.

When you send your photos indicate pieces lacking that we should try to illustrate. and if possible give source where one has been illustrated or in what collection a piece could be borrowed.

your new Page 46, Volume 27

2 A not as clear as it might be

Jasper saw a coin of Chas IV of 1788 & 1789 with with portrait of Chas IV

Have seen an 8 Reals dated 1654

Do you want the 2 4 & 6 ~~Reals~~ Escudos
you of Ferd V Photos

April 18, 1935.

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
305 Chapman Bui ding
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

Your two letters arrived but I have been called out of town, and will answer them as soon as can after I return.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

May 1, 1935.

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Bldg.
Los Angeles, Cal.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

I wish to apologize for not answering your two letters. I was called away suddenly between the ~~death~~ time of receiving your first and second letters and have been away more or less since. When I got back there was so much work I could not find time to study your notes. However, I have just put in a good day and will answer most of the questions. In on letter of March 18th you make the suggestion of a leaflet to go in some future monograph, correcting certain errors and making additions to your notes on the Alamos and Mermosillo mints. This is agreeable to us but it would be of much moment to put it in most monographs we get out because different people get different monographs. We might, however put it in your forthcoming Mexican one loose, so that they could put it in the previous monograph if they wish.

Now for your letter of April 9th. I will photograph one of Guttag's early pieces of Charles and Johanna showing the motto on ribbon. I really agree with you concerning those cast pieces of 1733. Having seen a number of these so well done and in general appearance different from most fakes I thought there might be a possible chance they were genuine but I think you have stablished sufficient good reasons to show that they are not. If you can bring up good enough proof and evidence that those triangular and 1611 pieces as well as those horrible so-called Aztec pieces are fakes you will be doing a good thing. I am herewith enclosing a check for $3.00 to pay back the difference in those coins from the Yemen that I sent you and the check for $12.00 that you sent me. Please pardon the delay in doing this. Keep all the photos and rubbings I have sent you because after we return the manuscripts we have here and you send us back the manuscripts revised, just the Colonial and Revolutionary parts, all photographs should be included. Any pieces then that are lacking and should be illustrated you should indicate and if possible give any sources where illustrations can be obtained from books or otherwise, or from collections you might know of where pieces could be borrowed. On page 40(Colonial 27) the second paragraph is not as clear as it might be. I note you say Charles IV two or three years after his accession ordered coins of 1788 and 1789 to be struck bearing his portrait rather than that of Charles III. I did not know of those and have never seen a specimen. I trust you have them. We

ought to show one of them. In case you have not the date, I have seen an 8 real piece dated 1653 and 1654. I have just borrowed from a collector a number of coins which I will photograph shortly and send on to you. Do you want the 2, 4 and 8 escudo gold pieces of Philip V photographed? Probably you have these already. I am glad you put in the short biographical sketches of the different monarchs. We probably will have to add in some cases a little fuller description of the coins.

Now for your letter of April 15th. It would be perfectly all right to put in a preface or introduction and make any remarks you want and include all acknowledgments of those lending coins or material. I really thing those little pieces with a crude eagle stamped in are Mexican but where they are from I don't know. We might photograph one and make the note that the attribution of these based on any facts obtainable is unknown. I agree with you concerning your other notes and suggestions. I am still going through with a fine tooth comb your part on the insurgent coins. I have made a few notes but will add these in another letter.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

May 7, 1935.

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Building
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

I have just finished going through the extra pages you sent on relative to the insurrection pieces and I am herewith sending on various notes I made. I am also sending on some sheets of rubbings and a photograph. The rubbings on the China laid paper were from a collection I saw a number of years ago. It has more recently been offered for sale and I am trying to locate the present owner of it, but so far without success. There may be some information to be gleaned from these rubbings.

I have turned your manuscript back to Mr. Noe to put before the Publication Committee.

Are you familiar with an article by Samuel Smith, Jr. that appeared in the American Journal of Numismatics in 1895, Vol. 29, page 101, "The Silver Coins and Mints of Spanish America from 1772-1825"? I very much doubt if it will give you much of anything you do not know. He seems to quote largely from Alvaro Campaner. Shortly I will send you a few photographs I took from the coins from a collection of a friend of mine, Mr. Liveright.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

May 8th, 1935.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

Your letter of May 1st. received and I appreciate how difficult it must be for a man in your position to take care of every one right on time. I am only sorry that my work has been of so much bother to you.

I am now working on a new chapter "Miscellaneous pieces of doubtful origin" and under this heading I shall consider:-

1 - Octagonal pieces of 1611.
2 - Triangular pieces of 1708.
3 - Cast pieces of 1733.
4 - Coins bearing the crude eagle counterstamp.
5 - The so-called Aztec coins.

The Charles IV page - (Colonial 27) has been re-written and along with the Colonial period pages 11 - 12 13 - 14 - 15, which have been corrected according to the memorandums sent by you, will be found attached hereto.

If you can obtain or have photographed the two escudo and four escudos pieces of Philip V, I would appreciate it.

Waiting to hear from you and anxious to see your further notations on the work sent, I beg to remain,

Yours truly,

May 11, 1935.

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
800 Chapman Building
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

I am herewith sending you some photographs, some of which may come in handy both for study and illustrations, of some Mexican coins I have just photographed from the collection of Frank I. Liveright. Any of these you wish you can use for illustrative purposes.

Very trulyyours,

HW:JG

Curator

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

June 3rd. 1935.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

Your last two letters have brought me pleasant surprises in material that I didn't know existed. The Schulman specimens were an eye opener. I wonder how much is he asking for each.

The photos you sent me of Mr. Liveright pieces were of great service. I thank you for them. In a separate sheet, enclosed herewith, you will find my deductions and a few questions. I beg of you to return same with your comments.

Regarding the rubbings from the Hill collection. Are they old or recent acquisitions? I would like to have photos of all the pieces as I fear you will not be able to make cuts from the rubbings. Can you?

Are you in possession of some information concerning the supposedly Calleja counterstamp found in the rubbings of a collection you saw sometime ago? I am inclined to think that this attribution is not correct as the monogram seems to be formed of a T ; a W, and an M.

As per your notes the pieces of the Suprema Junta of 1811-1812-1813 and 1814 will be included. (Guttag's No. 2830 and El Duro nos. 786 to 790.)

P. 14 - Insurgent provisionals - Do you happen to have the counter-stamped half real and the copper one real of Osorno that you allude to?

p. 18 - You say you have a Linares. That's fine. I only have a photograph of a pen and ink sketch.

The paragraph on the Congress of Chilpanzingo will be enlarged and a new heading will be made for the Suprema Junta Nacional Gubernativa.

Once more I thank you for the cooperation you have given me in the preparation of this manuscript.

Sincerely yours,

A. F. Pradeau

P.S. - What do you think of the "Preface" here included?

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

June 7th 1935.

My dear Mr. Wood: —

I find I haven't a full copy of the Mexican monetary law of Nov. 27th 1867 — I only have the first seven clauses. Can you tell me if you have it, either in Spanish or English?

Pardon the haste.

Yours sincerely

A. F. Pradeau

Rec'd 6-12-35

June 11, 1935.

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Building
756 South Broadway
Los Angeles, Cal.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

Your letter of June 3rd just at hand. As regards the rubbings from the Hill collection I could not tell you whether he has those coins now or not. I have had these rubbings several years. You might write him and if you do not know him mention me. His name and address is H. L. Hill, 862 Guerrero St., San Francisco. Cuts from the rubbings are better than nothing but they would be rather poor.

I have no information concerning that TMV or TMW counterstamp. That collection had several pieces with it on and the labels were marked "Calleja". I am enclosing a few more rubbings. We own the copper pieces and the one-half real of Osorno. I am also sending rubbings of Guttag's coins as well as a rubbing of our Linares piece. This we can photograph later. The two pieces from the Liveright collection are silver - the one with the CMS is of a two reals of Charles IV and presumably the other one is also. I am inclined to think that those pieces we have talked over before with the crude eagle counterstamped on them are genuine pieces and not fakes. I think they should be included even if we cannot determine the name of issuer. My reason for thinking they are genuine is because I have seen them in miscellaneous lots of coins, junk boxes, as well as collections, and in every instance the counterstamp looks old worn and dirty, which would seldom happen if they were fakes. Also, I think I have seen at least three different punches used for these pieces. The two real piece of the Suprema Junta Nacional has NG in the center not NE. It is of silver. The eight real piece of Philip IV is dated 1621 which would make the date all right. The piece looks perfectly genuine to me, although the inscription certainly is weird. Mr. Schulman when here called my attention that he remembered certain pieces counterstamped with YOI. He said he would try to look one up when he got home. Mr. Noe will write you in a few days, I think, concerning publication of your article. The Publication Committee met the other day and have made several suggestions, most of them about reducing the length of the book, but that phase will have to come from him.

Very truly yours,

M:JG

Curator

June 12, 1935.

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Building
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

A while ago a card collection of coins came into us. I have dug out the following Mexican which may be a help to you. In a few instances we might use the cuts for illustrations. Those you have no use for and when you are through with them return to us so I can put them back in the card file.

I am also enclosing an extract from the Mexican Monetary Laws which you wrote me about.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

June 24, 1935.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

I refer to your letter of the 11th. instant, which I could not answer before, as I was gathering information pertaining to the material sent by you.

Mr. Hill will be here in a few days and I shall ask him about the material from which the rubbings were made.

Concerning the TMV or TMW counterstamp, I am afraid I cannot attribute this to Calleja. Medina in his Monedas Obsidionales p. 225, specimen number 310 is something similar. Besides, whoever labeled these pieces Calleja in the sheet of rubbings you sent me made a number of other misstatements. Calleja was commander in chief of the royalist forces and later viceroy of New Spain. He had absolutely no reason for counterstamping coins, with initials as attributed to him.

The two real piece from Mr. Liveright collection of the Suprema Junta has in my opinion N.E. and not N.G. - It may seem ridiculous to you that I persist in making such statement; you have seen the coin and I havent. For days I tried to find some historical fact, place or name that would begin with N.G. failing in this I studied the photograph very carefully and I find the second letter to be of this form:

" "

In Mexico, it was customary, and to some extent it is true to-day, to make the capital " E's" in the manner represented above. I wonder if I could borrow the piece from Mr. Liveright. It is so difficult to study the photograph. Please understand Mr. Wood that I do not doubt your word, I am only arguing the point because the letters NG are an enigma to me, and I am very much interested in presenting this coin as clearly as possible.

That Mr. Schulman has a few coins counterstamped YRI I do not doubt, for Medina in the book mentioned above has a few specimens on page 227, No. 315. - It is impossible for me to classify them.

Now that the date has been clarified on the Philip IV piece as being of 1621 I believe it to be genuine. The weird inscription is probably due to ignorance on the part of the student engraver or engravers employed in the mint at the time, and this piece must be the result of a "masterpiece" demanded of each student engraver before they were permited to qualify. Such examinations were held frequently.

The two Osorno rubbings that you sent me are fine specimens that should be included with the set I once published. The other two rubbins with a circular and a rectangular CS bearing the letters "AR" are certainly not counterstamped by Osorno. I cannot attribute them to any one.

The two small pieces from the Guttag collection having a sort of a bird within a circular stamp, also what appears to be an " O " crossed by a long " S " I can not place. Medina in his Monedas Obsidionales, page 226, number 313 attributes them to Guerrero, which I think is wrong.

The two reales pieces with the small bust of Ferdinand VII are mentioned in page number 5 of War of Independence period, Royalist provisionals number 4, third paragraph under Zacatecas.

I take note of your Linares piece, and If you don't mind we could use that for illustration in the monograph.

You have been informed no doubt about the decission of the Publication Committee to shorten the Pre-Colonial portion of my monograph, and by this time you have been made aware of my opinion as expressed in my letter of June 18th in which I said that I could not find a single superfluous paragraph. Your opinions and suggestions so far have been excellent and I do not doubt that your observations about this part of the manuscript will carry a great deal of weight, and I am anxiously waiting for your decision.

Thanks a lot for the copy of the law of November 27th, 1867. Now, on paragraph 12, reference is made to selection of dies from patterns submitted by engravers, native as well as foreigners that were to be employed for the purpose. From these, no doubt, that the balances type of design was obtained. Do you happen to have the result of such a selection and a copy of the law making such a selection legal? I have written the Department of Colonization and Industry of Mexico requesting this information but as usual I don't expect a satisfactory answer from them. I am very much interested in the legal description of the coins that were emmitted, and I do not wish to take it for granted that it was the balances design, I wish to have the certainty. I hope you will be able to find it for me.

Once more, many thanks for your valuable suggestions and cooperation.

Yours faithfully,

A. Prieto

June 26, 1935.

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Building
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

I am still pouring over your manuscript though find hard work to concentrate on account of frequent interruptions. A while ago I wrote to Gewerlund and asked him if he had any unusual pieces of the revolutionary period. He is a great collector of counter-stamped coins. I am enclosing his letter, list of pieces and a few rubbings. I trust you will find something of value in these. I am also enclosing the photograph of the reverses of the photograph of Mongolian pieces sent on to you a while ago. This I just discovered.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

July 3rd. 1935.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

I am enclosing twenty-two pages, some to replace others that you now have, and a few new ones and I trust that this new material will meet with your approval.

From the cards you sent me I only found the Hidalgo counterstamp and have written "Miscellaneous pieces of doubtful origin" No. 6 about it. For fear that you might not place this C.S. I am including the clippings taken from the cards and which I had re-photographed.

Remembering that you once complained about the shortness of the chapter on gold coinage I decided to add what Williams had to say. This you will find on pages 19 and 20 of the Colonial period here included. In a foot note you will find a suggestion as to corrections.

The copy that I sent you of the PREFACE was received but not a word regarding it. Did it meet with your approval?

Months ago I got in touch with Mr. Cederlund and he was kind enough in having his counterstamped coins photographed for me and I have taken them in consideration when writing the text. Your thought was a happy one and I appreciate your doing it.

As I ~~stated~~ anticipated in my letter to you of June 24th the official sources of Mexico have notified me that they cannot find record of the Contest for new dies that was authorized by the law of Nov. 27th, 1867. I have written them again asking for a copy of the law authorizing the new dies of the balances design that appeared during 1869. Can you help me out with a copy of this law? I also find that that the centavo pieces authorized by the above law were substituted about 1900 with a new design and were of the same size as those authorized by the law of 1905. I am enclosing photographs to refreshen your memory and I trust that you will be able to send me copy of the order authorizing such change.

Sincerely yours,

A. F. Pradeau

July 8, 1935.

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Building
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

Your letter of June 24th and your more recent one of July 3rd at hand. I have been planning to write to you for several days but as I have been completing additions to my house in the country I have been away more or less during the past ten days. As I think I have already written you, I have carefully gone over again your first book of manuscript. I have made a number of suggestions and have indicated parts of the pre-Colonial section that might be cut out or reduced. This was following the suggestion of the committee. Also, I have put in suggestions and queries in other parts. You will note I have got a long note about leaving out the yearly tables of the value of the pieces struck. The committee seemed to think these were not necessary as long as you gave a summary of each reign - the reason being as I have explained in my note that no details are given as to the number of pieces struck for each denomination. We have got to cater to collectors to some extent and they are only interested in how many pieces were struck of each denomination each year. I have added your new notes and I am returning now all of the Part I.

Mr. Noe may have given you a wrong impression. The committee tentatively passed on your monograph saying they wished I would go over it again and then have you reassemble in final form just what was to go in with the illustrations so that they could see the thing just as it is to be printed.

I like the way you have rewritten the recapitulation and your remarks on the gold coins. I would carry on similar descriptions of the silver pieces. In assembling these sheets again I would bear in mind putting them in an order so they can be easily referred to. We have the Colonial coins divided into copper, silver and gold, rather than all of the coinage under each ruler. I would have preferred to treat it under each ruler but as you have done it the other way I would leave it as you have it. I do not know which way is really the best. It is not necessary to rewrite whole pages, as long as the manuscript is sufficiently clear and the printer can handle it. You could cut sections and remount on regular size pages.

Of course the parts after 1821 need not be sent back at the present time. In a short while I will return to you the second part on the Revolutionary coinage. Now for your letters more in detail.

I myself never was satisfied with the attributions on those rubbings I sent you. I simply copied what I found against each piece in this Mexican collection. I have been doing my best to get hold of this collection again but I can find no trace today of the owner. He wanted what I thought was a preposterous sum.

I am enclosing in this letter the 2 real piece from the Liveright collection so you can see for yourself. My opinion is it may not be Mexican but Guatemala. The thing may be a fake but I do not think so.

I have not as yet heard from Schulman but if and when I do I will let you know. When returning the manuscript any piece you have no illustration of but would like to illustrate please indicate and I will see if I can dig one up somewhere. I have found the laws for the change in the 1900 copiers - or rather bronze coinage. These were in December 1899. As there may be other laws or information in this book I am having the library send it on to you. So this matter is attended to as far as we are able.

Those Hidalgo counterstamps I have always considered as dubious. They were originally in the Bergsoe sale and two of them later were in the Salbach sale, and the third was in the Lobbecke, all sold by Schulman. Bergsoe was badly imposed upon and had many fakes and counterfeits in his collection, especially in the West Indian series.

The Preface I thought I said was all right - if I didn't, I say so now.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

July 14th, 1935.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

Your letter along with the first part of the manuscript has been received, also the book of Monetary Laws Of Mexico which you were so kind in ordering sent to me.

Close perusal of the manuscript disclosed the numerous notations made by you and which show that you have given the work considerable thought. I can't tell you how much I appreciate your many helpful and timely interventions.

There are only two points with which I am not in accord. I note that in several places you suggest that paragraphs be omitted or condensed, indicating that reference be made as to the source, where anyone, if interested, can find the subject matter in greater detail. In this I beg to disagree, mainly because the sources are not easily obtainable. I dare say that excepting a few large centers in this country the information is not available, even in Mexico. The idea of constantly referring the reader to some other work presents the alternative of his purchasing more books or leaving the subject alone. I am quite possitive that anyone would find it annoying and most likely, the reader, unless he happens to be a student, and residing in a center like New York, would give up in disgust. Besides many of the sources are in Spanish.

The next suggestion, made by the Publication Committee, of omitting all the tabulated coinage tables is a point which in my opinion is of great importance to the student as well as to the buyer of coins. You well know that the price of a given coin is estimated in nearly all instances by the number issued. It is true that we cannot obtain the figures for each denomination, but the percentage coined can be arrived at with some degree of accuracy by the laws issued and to which I frequently refer. Many a time I have been able to convince a dealer, by the use of my tables, that the value placed on a coin was preposterous, as it, by the amount coined that year, could not be considered rare or scarce. It is my intention to prevent abuses of this sort by throwing some light upon the amounts coined. The information given is not enough, I readily agree with you, but if it is all we are able to obtain, this bit is much better than none. Once more I wish to assure you that any-one trying to obtain the figures that I endeavor to give, from the source that we might mention, would find it a tedious and expensive, if not a fruitless undertaking. I have spent several hundred's of dollars in books and a few hundred more paying some one in the Mexico City libraries and archives to copy portions of this manuscript from sources too precious to be loaned, and yet, by the many queries made by me to you and to other substantial connections in official circles in Mexico, not mentioning the time involved, is conclusive proof of the difficulty that obtaining any kind of Mexican numismatic material entails.

It is my firm belief that conscientious collectors will more than appreciate a text which embodies within its covers all available information, thus avoiding the necessity of procuring ten or more other books in order to obtain what rightfully should have been included in a work which is supposed to be complete and authoritative.

Please be good enough, Mr. Wood, of conveying to the members of the Publication Committee the above given reasons and perhaps they will agree to have the work published as comprehensive as it is humanly possible to write it.

Trusting I will soon hear from you favorably, I remain,

Yours faithfully,

A. Radeau

P.S. In a few days I shall return Mr. Liveright's coin and the book.

July 18, 1935.

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Building
756 South Broadway
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

Your letter of the 14th just at hand. As you undoubtedly could see, many of my notations on your manuscript were my own ideas and suggestions. Others, especially in the pruning down part, were following suggestions made by the Committee, who told me they would like to see certain parts pruned down. I will admit that some of this eliminating I am somewhat indifferent about, though I do think that the value is not quite as much as you think it will be. However, this is up to you, and I will resubmit your manuscript when you return it to the Committee again in the fall. They were fairly insistent that the Pre-Colonial part be boiled down, therefore I would do as much of this as I could. In one or two instances you are not really supplying new information and in the place where I cut out quite a lot I could not see where it would have much of any especial bearing on the subject. I do feel that the averages that you have drawn out are a little misleading, especially in one or two instances and concerning the amount of the coinage I think the last column could be left out, as we may have difficulty getting this column properly on our small page.

I do not wholly agree with you that the buyer of coins can base his opinion wholly or even largely on the amount of silver or gold coined in a given year, because as you will know, sometimes they struck very few pieces of one or more denominations and many of another in some years and not in others. Really the chief thing I am anxious about is more information about individual coins and descriptions of the different varieties.
wrong date ff

Another point which I mentioned before to bear in mind is to have the different kinds of information concentrated so that the collector can find what he is looking for as easily as possible. We do want, therefore, as comprehensive as possible.

I will try to get at very shortly the second book that takes up the Revolutionary coins. As you will note, I have given little attention to the coins coming after 1821, as this can be taken up separately later.

I am very glad to see the photograph of the first provisional insurgent coin. I have put this, for the time being, in the place in the book where it belongs. I am enclosing another rubbing from Eklund but do not think this will have much value to us.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

July 19, 1935.

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Bldg.
756 South Broadway
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

I happened to be reading over last night Williams' account of the different types of Spanish gold coins. I note he was in error. In describing the cobs he described one issue as having the pillars of Hercules and the Cross on the back and the next issue with shield and cross in treasure. Those pieces with the pillars of Hercules were not made in Mexico but at Lima. Only the cobs with shield and cross are Mexican or Bogota. I did not check up on his portrait coins. I remembered that you copied pretty nearly verbatim his account but do not remember whether you verified what he had to say.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

August 1st, 1935.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

Please pardon my delay in answering your letter referring to the transcribed Williams' material. Years ago I wrote you a letter in which I stated that I didn't think much of his writings, and after reading your criticisms, I felt ashamed for having attempted to incorporate his article in the monograph.

To atone for my oversight, I have worked incessantly on the subject, and as the result of my labors I am sending you a new Gold chapter. Kindly look it over and write me your reactions.

About the re-arrangement of the monograph to read Gold first and Copper last, it is my belief that if we are to follow the historical facts chronologically, it would be better to present the chapter on Copper first, as Gold did not come into the picture until 1679.

Sincerely,

Translation of Dr. Rafael J. Fosalba's letter of August 3, 1935.

I have just returned from Seville, Spain, where I did some research on the early coinage of Latin America and brought with me photostatic copies of the original documents pertaining to such coinage.

My main object was to obtain data on the 4, 3, 2, and 1 maravedis pieces, the coinage of which was authorized the year of 1505 and were coined from 1516 throughout almost all of the reign of Charles and Johanna.

I have 317 such pieces which are the oldest of the American Continent. They were first coined in Seville, later coined at Conception de la Vega y Real, also in Mexico City and lastly in Santo Domingo.

I have been able to collect some 500 specimens and photographs, all different varieties of this interesting series which I consider extremely rare. At present I am making a minute study of all of them.

The object of this letter is to request of you photographic copies of such pieces that are in your museum which might fall under the following classifications:-

1 - Those of Charles and Johanna.
2 - Those similar to No. 115 of your book "Coinage of the West Indies"
3 - Those of the silver series illustrated on pages 488 to 491 of Guttags book.
4 - And any of the series similar to 4642 also of Guttag's book.

I must have two of each of these photographs and request that they be sent on reciprocity basis and I shall gladly mention that the specimens illustrated belong to your museum.

In addition to the coin illustrations the book will have photographs of the existent ruins of the mint edifices from which this coinage emanated, also portraits of the monarchs and other personages of the epoch.

When the book is published it will be my pleasure to present to your Society as many copies as needed to be distributed among your members interested in Latin-American Coinage.

I also have in preparation another book on the Revolutionary Coinage of Mexico for the years 1913-17, chiefly that which was issued by the States of Durango Guerrero and Oaxaca, to suplement the monographs published by you and others. The material was gathered by me personally while I was there, and as a courtesy to you I intend to follow the same numerical order as established by you in your second edition.

By the enclosed pamphlet you will see that I have in preparation a three volume treatise on the obsidional coinage of the American continent and it will deal with more than 4000 pieces. Besides, we intend to reprint a series of at least 15 articles taken from European and American Numismatic Journals, which as soon as reprinted I shall send to you.

On July 18th, last we installed in Montevideo a numismatic society and I was selected its first president. We shall be pleased to obtain from you the addresses of Latin American collectors residing in United States.

August 8, 1935.

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Building
756 South Broadway
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

Your letter of August 1st was on my desk as I came up yesterday from the country for a few days. I am glad you have rewritten the account of the gold coins and I want to compliment you on the work you have done and on the very good description you have given of each type. It was only a suggestion that I made concerning the order of placing gold, silver and copper, that order being the way it is generally done, but it really makes no difference.

I am returning your manuscript and you will note I have made a few corrections and I am offering a few suggestions. In the 1732 period I think both the M as well as the F should be considered as assayer's marks because the mint mark MO is always given in addition. In reference to the small cobs with cross and three towered castle with letters LM, LN or LH, I really consider these as Lima. I have, as you will see, on page 20 given references to some of these pieces. Therefore, I would not describe this under Mexico. In two or three instances you quote dates from Medina. I do not think this is necessary because virtually coins were struck each year and the dates have been recorded recently by Raymond in the Coin Collector's Journal. I think all my other notations are clear.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

September 6, 1935.

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
756 South Broadway
805 Chapman Bldg.
Los Angeles, Cal.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

I am enclosing a letter recently received from Dr. Fusalba. There are a number of things in it that I thought might interest you. When you are through with it I wish you would return it and if you do not mind could you give me a rough translation of it. I have done the best I could in reading it but there may be a few minor points I did not grasp.

I will get at the balance of your manuscript in a few days. I have really just gotten through my vacation. The few days I have been in have been taken up attending to pressing correspondence and routine matters.

Very truly yours,

HF JG

Curator

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

September 13th, 1935.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

Many thanks for sending me the letter of Dr. Fosalba of Montevideo, which I found most interesting. On the very same day of its receipt I sent him an air mail letter asking him to send me his sources of information as General Vargas did not exist during 1810-13; also the interpretation given by him to the numerous counterstamps which he asserts were found on the coinage of Zacatecas only, and which you and I know are to be found in all types of coinage of the epoch. My letter was courteous but I emphasized the need of our getting together, for if the collectors obtain different sources of information and these are antagonical to each other they will end by not believing any one. I din't fail to give him in sufficient detail my sources and my interpretations of the initials on the counterstamps. As soon as I hear from him I shall send you a free translation of his letter. The enclosed translation of his letter to you is greatly condensed. As a true Hispano-American citizen he writes the most flowery letters, and I din't bother to make a literal translation as I din't think that was what you wanted.

If we are to take this man or what he says seriously we have in him another Medina and I sincerely hope that it is so, as I consider the Hispano-American field of numismatics greatly neglected.

Mr. Hill of San Francisco, whom I know quite well, came in to see me yesterday. He is on his way to El Paso, Tex. While here I showed him the sheet of rubbings that you had sent me, and to my delight he told me he had the specimen bearing the double counterstamp S.J.P.G. (Suprema Junta Nacional Gubernativa) and he has promised that on his return home he will forward same to me to have it photographed.

While trying to re-arrange the photographic material in my possession I find that I lack copies of several gold pieces of Charles III, IIII and of Ferdinand VII. Will you please tell me if you can photograph them there? I have all the specimens but the artists of this city take very poor pictures of gold. I am not at all sure that some of the silver photographs will suit you, but as I have all the pieces, and if your laboratory can do it, I shall cease to worry. The photographs that I lack are for the smaller denominations only, so they are not many. Excepting these my photographic gallery of Mexican coins is quite complete.

I hope you enjoyed your vacation .

Sincerely yours,

A F Pradeau

September 18, 1935.

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Building
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

Your letter with the Fosalba matter just at hand. I wish to thank you for the translation. This was just what I wanted. There were two or three little points in the letter that I did not catch. I am glad that you have written him and although his intentions may be good, being so far away from Mexico he naturally might make certain errors. As a matter of fact one cannot know everything.

We can photograph here any of your coins that you may wish, so do not hesitate to send them on. The essential pieces that you lack make a list of and I will see if I can locate them elsewhere. If you are not satisfied with any of the photographs you have already send on the pieces and I will see if I cannot improve on them.

Very truly yours,

H.:JG

Curator

October 8, 1935.

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Building
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

The other day I returned your manuscript with my notations on the Revolutionary coinage. When I sent this to you, my stenographer was away and just now have a chance to write to you. As a matter of fact I haven't much more to say than what I jotted down on the manuscript. I found the enclosed note tucked away concerning the 3 Real piece of the first issue of Mexico. I am enclosing it in case I did not call this to your attention before.

Very truly yours,

HM:JG

Curator

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

October 10th, 1935.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

Under this same cover I am sending you the revised manuscript with the illustrations attached close to the page in which they belong. As I mentioned before, some of the photographs may not suit you as they are extremely faint, in a few instances I misplaced either the obverse or the reverse copy of one or two coins, and in the S.J.N.G. counterstamped coin as well as in the so-called Aztec coins of grotesque design I am waiting for Mr. Hill of San Francisco to send them to me. There are a few gold specimens that I do not have had good luck in the photographing of them, but I have the coins and as soon as you advice me I shall send them to you.

In reference to the cutting down of the pre-colonial material which embraces only thirteen pages, I was not very successful. A few lines were blue penciled but most of it seems to me at least to be of extreme importance and I hope you will see your way clear and have the committee accept it as it is, with the necessary corrections, of course.

In a foot note you ask for a full description of the two types of Charles and Johanna coins, also of the half real. As I only know of one type and this is going to be well illustrated, I left that portion unattended.

Your notes about the crudity of the coins of Philip II, III, and IV, also those of Charles II was also left without alteration, as we mention on pages 22, 21, that they were crude and illegible. However if additional emphasis is believed necessary, you may add what you wish. Would you mind? As quite a number of illustrations will accompany the reign of each monarch do you still think it neccessary to describe the coins?

About the assayer's list I thought it might be a good plan to publish it. I know it is incomplete, and by adding that it is the best we can do, collectors reading the book will realize that we tried to cover the subject.

In a foot note, page 19, you ask me to describe the first and second types of Peruvian coinage. Don't you think that a photograph of each type would do? I noted there that I don't know a thing about Peruvian coinage, so, if you wish to add the description, I would appreciate it.

At your request I have cut out the paragraph on the Charles and Johanna eight reales pieces, page 35, but I do so reluctantly as someone is apt to discover the references quoted, and I think that we should prevent them from coming back at us by publishing the statement supressed. It is my belief that the average collector would wonder at what I, supposedly an authority on Mexican numismatics, think of such pieces.

You advice me to cut out paragraph " e " on page 78. If we do so, what shall we say about the findings of Medina? (Fourth paragraph of page 77). My statement is given as an assumption and not as a fact. Don't you think we better let it stand?

Please let me hear from you at your earliest convenience,

Many thanks and my sincerest appreciation

A. F. Pradeau

P.S.- You will find many additions.

October 17, 1935.

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Building
756 South Broadway
Los Angeles, Cal.

Dear Pradeau:

Your manuscript has just arrived and I have only of course gone through it. There are two or three things I notice about the illustrations. Some you seem to have rephotographed from those we sent. They are a little too black and white, or contrasty, and would not look well on the same page with some of the others. If you could locate those photographs I think you would send them to me. You have certainly a good supply of photographs but it will be impossible to use all of them as we would get the book and the expense would be too great. I notice for many illustrations you have no credit line - presumably in those instances they are your coins.

The two types I meant of the Charles and Johanna coins are those with the plus on a panel like on the three reales. They come in two and one real pieces and were presumably the first issue. I can photograph these. Concerning the eight real piece I will work up something to fit in showing we know - out it but do not think it so hot.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

October 22nd, 1935.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

In answer to your letter of the seventeenth, permit me to say that I sent you as many photographs as I had available, for you to choose from, and I din't think that you would use them all, as some of them are not clear enough, but as I mentioned in my previous letters I had enough material so that we would not have to worry about illustrations. As a rule I tried to use the material that some other collectors had, even if I had a similar specimen, because they were good enough to cooperate and I thought that was the only decent thing to do. I took special pains to return in the copy of the manuscript that I sent you, the actual photographs that you were good enough to send me, and I took the precaution to have them re-photographed here in case that copy was lost in transit, and besides I wanted them for my files. However, within- a day or two I shall have rounded up all of the photographs that you sent me, and I shall send them to you immediately after.

Thanks very much for acceding to my wishes about the eight reales pieces of Charles and Johanna.

I have heard from Mr. Hill of San Francisco, and by Thursday I expect to have the photographs of the specimens lacking in the manuscrip and a few notes.

The only one that I am sending to-day, under this same cover is the one with the four counterstamps, which I think needs a special introduction as there are points found in the coin that appeared when I studied it under the microscope. You will find all the new points in a separate sheet.

Waiting to hear from you, I remain,

Respectfully yours,

A F Pradeau

P.S.- I was able to get the enclosed photo from my desk at the office. To-night when I get home I shall look for any other that I might have.

October 22, 1955.

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Building
756 South Broadway
Los Angeles, Cal.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

I am slowly going through your manuscript and in the pre-Colonial section I am putting back many of the things I first questioned although I do think it is a little too long. In fact, you say more about the cocoa beans than you say about any individual coins. However, on page 7 I do think all of those paragraphs where you quote Herrera and describe illustrations of five engravings should be cut out as it is a little involved and I cannot see that it helps the story in any way. We might as well tell how the mint might have wrapped up the coins in bags or put them in kegs. If you want you can simply say that Herrera illustrated be engravings how the cocoa bean was packed and let it go at that.

On page 10 running over onto page 11 I really think we can safely omit the two paragraphs beginning "Oaxacan says etc." At the foot of page 11 where you compared pieces with the Chinese razor money and which I cut out you can say a few words, something like this - "The Indians along the Pacific coast up into Alaska had copper ~~xxxx~~ shields etc." That really represented wealth rather than money. See Numismatist April 1933, p. 234 by Gibbs who quotes from a report of the National Museum for 1895 by Frank Boas. I think this would give a sufficient parallel of wealth rather than money for your purpose. On page 12 where you quote yourself in an article in the Numismatist I think you have left out one line of thought. Don't you really think that these pieces although originally used as pottery instruments everything being recognized as a unit of value were ultimately made in quantities as a medium of exchange. In other words with the thousands that are in existence they could not have all been used for fabricating pottery. It is a perfectly logical development.

I will write you further comments from time to time rather than swamp you with a lot of questions all at one time. I appreciate you want to have as much as possible in your article but we have got to think of space and expense. The article is really going to make more of a volume that we first thought and I do not want the committee to get cold feet over it.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

October 29th, 1935.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

It is a splendid idea of writing me from time to time about the manuscript. This proceedure will simplify matters a lot for both of us. Now in regards to your suggestions of October 22nd, permit me to say:

"I say more about cocoa beans than about any individual coins" - It is true, because that really was the only medium of exchange accepted throughout the great Mexican or Aztec empire, which extended nearly to the borders of the Inca civilization. The others mentioned were found in localized communities and cannot and should not be given greater importance. In this I may be in discord with Mr. Gibbs of Pitsburgh, but I am sure, he is not able to substantiate his assertions. The paragraphs quoting Herrera are of the utmost importance because it is the most concise description of all the writings of the time and the very fact that he devoted so much time to his investigations shows or proves the assertion made in the upper portion of this paragraph that cocoa beans were the only means of exchange used by the average native and acceptable all over the vast empire. Besides, the writings of Herrera can with difficulty be found and in large libraries only, it is in Spanish, and to my knowledge this description has only been published once, in 1895. This description is only four paragraphs, less than a page, and I would be glad to pay for the added cost. So please let it be in.

"On page 10 running over into page 11, etc." you think that we can safely omit two whole paragraphs beginning with "Sahagun says, etc." - The first paragraph should not be omitted, but I am willing to have you cut out the second up to where it reads:- "The author has on two different occasions, etc." and the enclosed newspaper article, while it has very little bearing on the subject of numismatics, it shows two figures of gold that could be reproduced and added to the text of the monograph, as these pieces are the ones referred to by Sahagun, who I quote.

At the foot of page 11 where hoe money is compared with Chinese razor money permit me to call your attention that I am quoting Mr. Place. This, however, does not prevent us to add the statement that you suggest, and to quote and refer the reader to the Numismatist of April 1933, p. 234. of which I am, frankly, in accord.

P. 12 - You call my attention to having left out the thought that hoe money was ultimately made in quantities as medium of exchange. I thought I made that quite explicit in paragraph seven, of the same page. If it isn't clear, please add your suggestion which is exactly what I intended to convey.

I trust I have made everything clear and I sincerely hope you agree with my viewpoint. At this time I am enclosing the pictures and description of the pieces sent by Hill of San Francisco. One of them is of great interest although I am not able to give you any information I feel certain that you or Mrs. McCormick, who is now in Chicago, would known something about it.

Respectfully yours,

A. F. Pradeau

November 12, 1935.

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Bldg.
756 South Broadway
Los Angeles, Cal.

Dear Pradeau:

At last I have been able to study your letters and write to you. I have been much tied up with another manuscript, quite a little of writing, preparing for a lecture and with a wonderful lot of Greek and Roman coins amounting to 1300 pieces that I had to go through and report to the Council on last Friday.

Your letter of October 22nd has nothing more to say except I am herewith returning some of the photographs that you sent me. In many instances I have substituted the new photographs for some that you had pasted in the book - the reason being that in the book were rephotographs and being one further removed from the original are not as good for reproduction because they are a little too contrasty - that is the lights are lighter and the darks are darker and the middle tones are not there. Some of these questions I ask you and some of the suggestions for omitting I might say are sent to you to say yes or no. I would like to omit them but if you can give me a good enough reason for leaving them in I can give a better story to the Publication Committee if they suggest leaving them out - thus it was with the long quotation from Herrera. I will leave this in unless the Committee should insist. On page 10 I am cutting out the middle paragraph beginning again where you suggest.

On page 11 - I have ended Mr. Place's quotation at the sentence "buried with their dead". I happen to know a good deal about the ancient Chinese money and I could not stand for his statement. The mere fact he called it razor money showed he was not a Chinese scholar. Also they were actual coins and not wealth. I have however substituted the sentence about those British Columbian copper cents which to my mind fits the case.

About the question on page 12 I hardly know how to make it seem stronger but if you can think of a good sentence to put in saying they were made later in quantities do so.

In your last letter, that is of November 4th, I am very glad to hear what you have to say. Concerning the illustration of Tlacoc and Senales I hardly know what to say as I have not yet digested that part of your manuscript. We have two or three of those SC pieces of 1768. If you do not have one and want one I would be glad to give you one. To me they have a rather modern look.

Concerning that crude silver cuartilla which you think might be of the first issue of 1552 would you take a chance and illustrate it? I think that you

were right in putting it down as early. Have you any data as to its type - because it does seem rather strange that we get nothing like it for 250 years? The nice piece without mint mark I thought possibly might be for the Philippines though made in Mexico because Perez tells me that those undated pieces were for the Philippines. As yet I have received no answer from our South American friend. I sent him a lot of photographs and should hear from him any time now.

I have gone through some more pages of your manuscript and here are my queries - on page 14 - I think I have asked this before but in case I haven't I think it would be well to say that no Tepuzques are known today and none of the slugs have been recognized as such.

On page 15 - first paragraph, is there any sort of a description of these extant and should you judge that they might be thick pieces of metal stamped either intaglio or in incuse depressions from punches and not form what we might call dies?

Page 17 - the paragraph beginning "The work of improving" - can there not be some confusion in this account with that on page 14 on account of the similarity of years 1526 and 1536 - because I should judge there were no Tepuzque gold discs left in 1536 and if there were any they were outlawed and melted down into bullion. Just study these two paragraphs over.

Page 19 - I have written a description of the early Peruvian types.

Page 20 - I would like to cut out the last paragraph "Bancroft goes on to relate" Although interesting it is not really germain to the subject.

Page 22 - first paragraph - I have taken the liberty of rewriting it as follows: "The money minted in New Spain did not bear the date of coinage before the death of Philip III. After this time one finds some pieces in which the date is visible but on account of the crudeness of the pieces the irregularity of the planchets and at times to the clipping of them the dates oftentimes do not show as they were usually placed around the edge".

Page 26 - last line letter D - as the dates 1728 and 1730 are of Philip VI's reign I have transferred this to the next page by adding in the line where you give only the date 1727, these other two dates.

Also I wish you would rewrite your note because the change of the mint master's initials in 1742 from obverse to reverse necessitated the use of only one initial. This continued as long as the two worlds type was made.(I forget the name you gave this type). This type went through 1771. From 1742 through 1769 an M only appeared. In 1770 and 1771 the mint initial was an F. There is no need of quoting Gutteg or Fonrobert because all the coins were thus.

Under Ferdinand VI you state MF appeared on coins dated 1746 to 1752. This should read, I think, 1747 to 1752 because Philip V coined into 1747. A change of type on reverse was made on the gold coins in 1753 and without checking a coin of 1753 because I have not got one I feel confident the MM came in that year. On your note at bottom of page 27 you speak of two known specimens dated 1870 and 1872.

Can these be genuine coins? Are they not fancy pieces or English counterfeits, as I have seen beautiful counterfeits of Charles IV made of Sheffield plate I think for the China trade. Unless you are sure of these pieces I doubt if I would mention them.

Pages 29 - 30 . This may disappoint you but as we are going to illustrate rather fully, I think we can save expense by cutting out the cuts of arms especially as these arms are not a sure index of the coins from the American mints and do show the arms on the coins. This is all for the present.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

November 18, 1935.

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Building
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Pradeau:

I have gone through with a fine tooth comb the manuscript up to page 39 and herewith are my findings.

Page 31 - I wonder if it would be possible to distinguish those first copper coins that I understand were made in Spain, San Domingo and Mexico. Fonalba is apparently working on these. I suppose some of these were made in Mexico but which ones? In looking through a lot of them one quickly sees that they fall into two or three distinct classes - judging from style. Some of the dies are fairly well cut - others are crude. The well cut dies seem to be on larger and thinner planchets. Also, some have the figure 4 and others have IIII. Most of the smaller thicker kind have the IIII. Do you know if any of these have been found in Mexico or in sufficient numbers to put them down as a Mexican issue? In times past they have been extremely plentiful in San Domingo and Porto Rico. I really think this is the coinage you refer to on page 31 and I was wondering if we should not illustrate one of these? If so, you might write a paragraph stating that this presumably is the type referred to.

Page 34 - When do you think the tokens you mention in your fourth paragraph were first used. I do not remember ever seeing any copper pieces that looked much more than 150 years old. If you have any data or ideas I think some dates should be mentioned.

Page 35 - In the paragraph about the 3 Real piece I have added this note concerning our specimen to the effect that "this piece was illustrated in Memorial Numismatico Espanol by D. Alvaro Campaner y Fuertes Vol. 4, 1880, Plate II, No. 8." There are certain cracks and the clipped outline of the piece absolutely identifying this piece.

Page 36 - In my last letter I asked you whether we should illustrate that little crude quartillo that we have. Since then I have located in our collection another one that I think fits in better. It has not the monogram of Philipus on one side and the cantoned cross on the other. This weighs 9 decigrammes. The first piece submitted I really think must be later because I very much doubt if 200 odd years later they would have adopted the exact same design. The weight of the Castle and Lion piece is 7½ decigrammes. They are both by weight and size quarter reales without a doubt. I really think the Philip monogram piece is of the 1552 issue. If you concur with me

I wish you would change that paragraph and we will illustrate it.

Page 37 - the sixth paragraph bothers me; The one starting"According to a letter" - as this paragraph is not borne out by the facts I think you it might be well to leave it out. Also, your attempts to explain it are not quite right, especially where he says this was remedied by the end of 1735. I have never seen it abbreviated HIS on any coin before 1743 when it was adopted on the 2 real, 1 real and 1/2 real pieces and continued on through the next reign into the end of this type of Charles III. In other words, it didn't start out so but it ended up so on the smaller pieces. In your next paragraph you mention it is found on the 2 real pieces only, which is not a fact. I also think that you have not stated quite as clearly as you might the two types that came in in 1732. The first type similar to the previous type seems to have been struck in the years 1732, 1733, 1734 and then went out of existence. I have never seen a really round specimen of this type. All of them seem to be cut pieces rather the crude edge pieces. In other words similar to the Guatemala coins. You also state that this type, as I interpret what you say, continued until 1743. I have never seen a specimen dated after 1734.

The two world type evidently began to be struck in 1732 although I should judge they were very rare. Look at Gottag's book page 307 where he illustrates one and gives quite a little information. He also illustrates two varieties of 1733.

Page 38 - next to last paragraph. I do not follow you on this. Where you state that the mint mark be placed somewhere away from the pillars of Hercules.As the Mexico City mint had long since made this change this order was not taken in consideration. As near as I can make out the mint mark has always been near the pillars.

I think this is enough for the time being.

Very truly yours,

H.:JG

Curator

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

November 18th, 1935.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

From your letter of November 12th, I learned that you agreed with me in leaving part of the paragraph that you suggested cutting out, and also in using the material sent in the form of a newspaper clipping. One thing I wish to call your attention to and that is that I thought that the British Columbian shields were of gold, and not of copper. Am I in error?

About the 4th. paragraph of page one of your letter. I am sending you in a separate sheet something that can be added to meet your requirements.

About the 5th. paragraph. I will be pleased to have one of your duplicates of the SC 1768 coins. I do not own one. I shall be interested in knowing the final outcome on the tlacos and pilones.

Regarding your paragraph on the silver quartillas I have no additional data to impart to you on them, but I feel that we are justified in illustrating it and calling it of the first issue of 1552. Whether we should mention that the Mexico City mint coined silver for the Philippines, I think it would be nice to do so, but the impression I have received is that Mr. Perez wishes to have it known that Mexico coined silver for the Philippines with a special mint mark or none at all. This is not the case. Mexico supplied the coined money, but it was against the rules and regulations of the mint to strike any pieces without the distinguishing marks, mint assayers and city symbol, to whom the crown could come back to make them responsible in case of error or fraud.

The doctor from South America has not seen fit to answer my air mail, registered, return receipt letter that I sent him. The receipt was returned to me about three weeks ago.

My answer to the 2nd., 3rd. and fourth paragraphs of page two of your letter is found in the enclosed sheet of inserts. Your remark about the date, on page 17, beginning with "The work of improving" is quite timely, but I have verified the statement and it is correct as given.

Many thanks for writing the description of the Peruvian types. Please eliminate the last paragraph of page 20 as you suggest. Your remarks about page 22 are perfectly satisfactory and the change has been made in my copy of the manuscript. The same applies to the change from page 26 to p.27.

I hope the insert for p. 27 will meet with your approval. My quotations of different collections are there principally to know the source of the information. You may eliminate as many as you wish. Continuing with p.27 I have changed the date as you suggest. The only portion I have not verified is the MM of 1753, but as you are and have been right in all other changes I have taken for granted you know better, therefore I have made the change. About the 1870-1872 coins, mentioned by Medina and others, if you don't mind I would leave in with the addition of the enclosed insert. Your elimination of pages 29 and 30 is perfectly satisfactory. All the coins and descriptions I sent you in the last two weeks are from Mr. Hill's collection.

Mr. Wood.

You may place them where ever it is your pleasure as you now have all of the monograph and I am sure that your opinion will be much better than mine.

I looked in all my records and I have not been able to confirm the information given by Mr. Perez. I shall continue to look for it and will let you know if I ran across something of importance pertaining the Philippine coinage.

The photographs arrived by regular mail, this morning. Many thanks for the numerous courtesies and allow me to congratulate you on the keenness of your mind, for you have been able to detect errors that had escaped me such as the " D " of Philip V dated 1728 and 1730, of his second reign.

Yours respectfully,

A. T. Radcaire

November 21, 1935.

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Building
Los Angeles, California.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

I am enclosing that 1768 Tlaco. If you wish you might say a few words more concerning these and if you have an especially interesting piece we might illustrate one or two. We have a few ourselves of these odd shaped pieces. In my letter of the other day I wrote you concerning the cuartillas so there is no need of taking these up further until I hear from you. I gathered from Perez that the pieces Mexico struck for the Philippines had the Mexico mint mark on them but without dates and that probably other consignments were sent over after 1794. Those struck on the island he has records of but has no idea as to what they look like. I have incorporated your other additions that you sent on a separate sheet. The first chance I get I will verify the mint master's initials on the 1753 piece.

I will be away all of next week.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

November 25th, 1925.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

I have before me your letter of November 18th. and as a result of your findings I am enclosing another sheet of inserts, which will take care of your suggestions for pages 31 and 37.

Your addition to page 35 is a good one. Many thanks.

Regarding the silver fourths it is my opinion that the one with the monogram of Philipus on one side and the cantonned cross on the other is a one-half real piece clipped or worn. The piece with the castle and lion is the one we have searched for years. I have measured the cantonned cross very carefully and it is of exactly the same dimention as the half reales in my possesion..

In reference to the eight paragraph, page 37, it is correct. My belief is that the macuquina type of coinage continued until the second half of the year 1734, but Herrera, in his book "El Duro" p. 17, asserts that they continued minting them until 1743.

I am now working on the third paragraph of your letter and if I find any dates regarding the copper tokens mentioned on page 34 I shall let you know. I am also working on the next to the last paragraph of page 38. My next letter will probably throw some light upon both of these two points.

While I was writing this letter yours of the 21st. instant arrived bringing with it the specimen of 1768 for which I thank you.

By this time I find myself rather mystified about Dr. Fosalba of South America, as he has had more than sufficient time to reply to my letter of Sept. 9th. that was sent by air mail and was received by him on the 16th of the same month.

Very sincerely yours,

A. F. Pradeau

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

November 26th, 1935.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

This letter is to serve as a supplement to the one I wrote to you yesterday and I hope it gets to you about the same time as the other, so as to not inconvenience you too much.

In the sheet of corrections to page 37 - 4th. paragraph - I discovered that the complete name of the architect is D. Nicolas Peinado y Valenzuela; that of his assistant is Alonso Garcia Cortes. - If you find it advisable, please make the change.

On paragraph Seventh, same sheet I found that I made two errors. On line 10 the mint mark M * 1732 * M should be surmounted by the low case letter " o " on both m's. - On line 15 I say that the piece measured 39 mm. and should be thirty five millimeters.

Regarding the approximate dates on which tlacos were issued by private firms, haciendas or mining interests, I can only find record of "about the middle of the 18th. century" which is quite indefinite but that is the best I can do. I sat up until mid-night last night looking at all of my references and the best as well as the most recent article to quote is the one entitled "Mexican Hacienda Tokens" published in the Spink & Sons circular of March 1934 by Manuel Romero de Terreros, Marques de San Francisco, an ardent Mexican collector with whom I have been in constant touch.

While I am on the subject of copper coinage, permit me to refer you to the end of paragraph 4 of page 34 in which I give the values as 2/4 - 1/4 - and 1/8 of a real. This is a mistake. The word cuarto (pl. cuartos) is literally translated as fourth or fourths but this is not the actual meaning as the meaning is copper fourths (cuartos de vellon) and of these, according to Spanish monetary laws there were sixteen cuartos de vellon to each silver real. This would make the 2/4 coin worth only one eight of a real; the 1/4 piece would be one-sixteenth of a real; and the 1/8 specimen is then equivalent to one thirty-second of a real. Approximately 1½ cents for the first; 3/4 of a cent for the second, and 3/8 of a cent for the last. The law of Sept. 8th, 1728 changed the value of the silver real to 20 cuartos de vellon, but this was invalidated in 1737, so the value of the silver real in 1814 was the one here mentioned.

The next to the last paragraph on page 38, relative to the mint mark should read as follows:

" The real pragmatica (royal ordinance) of May 29th 1772 decreed that the mint mark be placed on the coins somewhere away from the pillars of Hercules. In the Mexico City mint this order was ignored as the ♀ symbol continued on the marginal inscription of the side bearing the pillars."

This information I obtained and translated literally, but as you say the mint mark has always appeared near the pillars, therefore I make the change.

Yours very truly,

A F Prad

December 6, 1935.

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Building
756 South Broadway
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

Your three letters were on my desk when I returned from being away for a week. I will include the silver quarter real showing the lion and the castle but I do not think it would be well to say anything about the other one, as it is problematical whether it is a half or a quarter. Personally, I think it is a quarter. Not being worn down at all as the bulk of the halves were, it is thicker than the average specimen we see. I think the size of it is as it was originally made. As we can't say anything about it we will leave it out.

Concerning the eighth paragraph on p. 37, as you do not quote Herrera I am inclined to think I would change the date to 1734 rather than 1743. Herrera or the printer could have transposed those two last figures. We all know that errors do creep into the works of the best writers and it is almost an axiom that errors once made are repeated time and again by subsequent writers who take it for granted that what the first writer says is correct and do not check up. As neither you, I or Guttag have ever seen a cob dated after 1734 I think the facts would make it that year. Unless you find some statement concerning copper tokens I would say they probably came in about the second half of the eighteenth century. I have added the full name of the architect and his assistant on page 57 and have made the correction by putting the small d's over the m's on the 1732 pieces.

I wish you would write out just the wording you wish to go in concerning the real value of the copper pieces in relation to the reals. I would rather not attempt to insert just what you have written in the manuscript. I think it would be well to cut out that paragraph on page 38 beginning with "The real pragmatica of May 29, 1772," because on all of the coins before and after from Mexico Guatemala, Potosi, Lima and Chile the symbol is near the pillars. In other words, no mint ever made any such change.

Now, concerning the seventh paragraph on p. 37, partly what you have written is right but I think you should mention somewhere about the abbreviation of Philip's name appearing only on the small pieces after a certain date. The piece you quote has an 8 real piece without mint master's initials or value from the Liverright collection is a 4 real piece and weighs four reals. It probably was a sample die sent over from Spain leaving a space

for the Mexican authorities to fill in mint masters' initials, etc. I am returning this paragraph because if I hold it here I might lose it or get mixed up about it. I am enclosing photographs of some very nice copper pieces I borrowed from H. D. Gibbs. We probably will use one or two of these in place of the one we now have. You can keep these by indicating to me by 1, 2, 3 or 4 any you might want to use.

The other day I was reading over a manuscript for a man on Texan money. This sentence I challenged but I think it is of enough interest to send it to you. "A great part of the currency (of Texas) consisted of 'hammered dollars' which is the old Spanish dollar from which the Royal effigy had been effaced by the Mexicans as a testimony of their indignation towards their former rulers." There may be a grain of truth in this but I do not remember ever seeing any dollars so treated. If you have, you might make mention of it. At any rate they cannot be called the hammered dollars as I presume if that name was used it applied to the old cob. I have not had a chance to go through your manuscript any further, but will get at it soon.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG Curator

December 10, 1935.

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Building
756 South Broadway
New York City.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

I have gone through the gold portion of your manuscript which takes up to page 47 and see nothing to comment on except I have joined your last two sentences in the last paragraph on page 39. I am sending you herewith a description of the Charles and Johanna pieces which I mentioned to you sometime ago I would do. I would say that this should be inserted following the next to the last paragraph on page 36. I have not mentioned the cuartillo as I thought possibly you might like to change the last sentence of the next to the last paragraph that you added a short while ago and add a description of the piece we decided upon at the end of what I have just written, with a statement that this possibly is the piece in question.

I am enclosing a rubbing of a 2 real piece that we have just acquired. It is smaller than any of the head type but is the same size as the two world type. Its weight is only 4.04 grammes instead of 6.7 grammes and appears to be of good silver from well-cut dies. In fact, the lettering seems to be made from the same punches as used on the pieces of previous years. You will note that the head goes into the border so that the end of the laurel wreath is cut off. I have no other 2 real piece of this date to see if they made any of the larger size. You may have a 1787 yourself and can compare it. I do not know that we need to mention this but I thought it would be interesting for you to know about.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

December 11th, 1935.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

This is in answer to your letter of the sixth and I am enclosing an insert to take care of the copper coinage as mentioned in your third paragraph. On the insert to page 37 you will find corrections made to take care of the suggestions offered by you.

If you wish we could insert a paragraph somewhere either in the silver coinage or in the reign of Philip V stating that it is possible that silver cuartillas were used then and to substantiate our statement we are publishing a photograph of the one in your posession.

About the date 1743 being 1734 I am thoroughly in accord with you but in my copy I find that I quote Herrera in one or two places besides the one you mention. I think it would be well to strike them all out.

Many thanks for the photographs of the copper Charles and Johanna pieces of Mr. Gibbs. They are beauties. Anyone of them would make a nice cut and if I were to eliminate any, I would say that number four is the least desirable. However, in this as in many other instances I leave the selection to you.

With reference to the last paragraph of your letter, allow me to say that during the war of independence (1810-1821) many of the insurgent provisional specimens show that an attempt was made to efface the obverse and reverse designs of the Spanish Colonial coins by hammering them. This however was not in testimony of the indignation of the Mexicans toward their Spanish rulers, as history quite clearly demonstrates that as Napoleon had deposed Ferdinand VII and placed Joseph Napoleon on the throne of Spain, the residents of New Spain, whether native or Spaniard wanted Ferdinand to come to New Spain to rule over them. Some mention of this is made in the manuscript when dealing with insurgent provisionals, under Supreme National Council.

I hope I have covered all the points raised in your above mentioned letter.

Very truly yours,

A. F. Pradeau

Howland Wood - Curatorial

Pradeau, A.F.
[Los Angeles, CA]

1936

VAndike 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

January 21st, 1956.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

On January 8th. Mr. Fosalba of Montevideo, wrote me a letter by Air Mail in answer to mine of Sept. 9th. last. He offers his excuses because of the delay which was caused by his being on an archeological mission in Brazil. His letter is three pages long and as flowery as the one he wrote you. In substance this is what he has to say about the following:-

L.V.O. - Stand for Luziaga, Verduzco (and) Odriozola. - My answer to Dr. Fosalba: The names stand for insurgent commanders and the coin bearing this inscription is a Royalist one. Besides Luziaga and Odriozola are unknown not only to me but to all historians that I was able to consult. Dr. Fosalba claims that the Latin interpretation given by me (Labor Vincit Omnia) is wrong because it isn't grammatically correct and I agree with him that it should be "Labor Omnia Vincit". In my answer to him I tried to tell him that the Latin inscriptions of that date whether in medals, coins, or books were usually incorrect as there were very few competent Latin scholars. This same explanation applies to the coin bearing the "L.V.S." counterstamp which Dr. Fosalba claims should not be "Labor Vincit Semper" but it should be taken to mean "Luziaga, Verduzco, Serrano". Of these three names Verduzco is the only one known to me or anyone else.

J. M. L. - Dr. Fosalba attributes this counterstamp to Jose Maria Luziaga and I call his attention to the fact that no such man existed and no doubt he means Liceaga.

L.C.M. - He attributes this counterstamp to "Luziaga, Cos, Morelos". Assuming that he means Liceaga I am writing to Dr. Fosalba that these three insurgent commanders were at all times antagonistic to each other; therefore it is not likely that they would consent to have their names linked in a counterstamp.

M.V.A. - Our South American friend interprets this counterstamp as follows: "Morelos, Verduzco, Allende". If you remember that this counterstamp bears the date of 1812, regardless of the fact that it appears on coins dated from 1805 to 1819, it certainly would not have had retroactive effects as the insurgent leader Allende was shot in July of 1811.

As I mentioned, I have written by air mail to Dr. Fosalba telling him exactly what I am telling you and I leave it to you to decide whether he or I have the most plausible interpretation. However, if you consider that I am correct, I would suggest that you consider making a footnote giving the interpretations of Dr. Fosalba.

Due to the recent death of my mother this is the first time that I have interested myself in my book. I am inclosing check for my dues and will be eager to hear from you about the material contained in this letter.

Respectfully,

A. F. Pradeau

Enl.

January 27, 1936.

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Building
756 South Broadway
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

I am sorry to hear of the loss of your mother. My own passed away about ten months ago.

I herewith acknowledge your check for your dues.

Concerning your notes from Mr. Fosalba, will start off by saying as yet we have not heard from him. In every instance where Mr. Fosalba thinks differently from you I consider that you are right. He is too far away to know all the fine points of the Mexican coinage, obscure history etc., without knowing a thing about these various men and leaders in the revolution I would say his deductions were pretty far fetched and that your interpretation of the monograms are more logical and probably nearer to the truth than his. He apparently ties up each initial to some leader's name. On the face of it I think such a thing is most unlikely. They did either stand for one person or for a motto or for something fairly well known locally at the time. I do not think I would bother to make a footnote on Dr. Fosalba's interpretations as they seem to me so far fetched.

Your manuscript is now in the hands of the Publication Committee as one of the members of this is going through it. I laid it before them the other day and they seem to want every date and denomination listed. I told them that with the older issues it would be almost impossible that at any rate it would involve a terrific amount of labor and would take a long time and I for one would not want to undertake this Unless you have a pretty extensive notes on what denominations were struck each year I would like to stave this off. It would make a nice check list for most collectors but it would add a great deal to the expense.

Did you receive my letter a few weeks ago enclosing a

rubbing of an ingot bearing the name of Charles V that a consider phoney and also an illustration of a 20 Peso piece which I understand is pretty nearly unique? This is all I have to report for the present.

Very truly yours,

HWE:JG

Curator

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

February 5, 1936.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

Many thanks for your letter of Jan. 27th . I also wish to acknowledge your letter of Jan. 2nd, to which came attached a rubbing of one of the coins of Cortes. Enclosed you will find what I have to say about them, using your rubbing as the described piece for I have not seen one of them.

In your letter of the 27th you mention having sent me an illustration of a 20 peso piece which you consider unique. I presume that you sent that somewhere else as it is not even mentioned in your letter of Jan. 2nd. but I would be interested in seeing it.

As soon as I hear from Mr. Fosalba I shall be pleased to let you know of his impressions about my reluttals which were sent to him the same day I received his letter.

It isn't quite clear to me what the Publication Committee wishes to have. By "every date and denomination" do they mean photographs besides descriptions? In reference to the amounts struck for each denomination, this information does not seem to exist anywhere, and in the few instances where I was able to obtain it, I made sure that it was placed in the proper place of the manuscript. My notes as sent to you is all I have been able to acquire, as I don't believe in concealing anything and I would gladly incorporate more information if it were available. You can assure the Committee that I have not spared time or money in obtaining as much data as it was possible to get, and it is with deep regret that I acknowledge my inability to ~~cannot~~ supply any more information.

I note that you have checked the initials on the coinage of 1752 to 1755. I shall do the same at this end and will communicate to you any findings.

Of late there has come to my attention that the L.V.O. pieces of Zacatecas, chiefly those of the 8 reales denomination, appear in two types: the ones struck with a die and others cast. My opinion is that the cast pieces are counterfeits. What do you think? They are quite accurate.

Yours respectfully,

A. F. Pradeau

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

April 16th, 1936.

Mr. Howland Wood,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

Since January 27th last I have not had a word from you.

I would appreciate your letting me know what the outcome was, for in your last letter you notified me that the Publication Committee had the monograph.

Many thanks,

April 18, 1936

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Building,
756 South Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

I do not blame you for wondering what has become of me and the decision of the Committee. I wrote you that they thought there should go in a table showing the different denominations issued each year. I have been holding off writing to see again one of the members of the Committee to clear up a little more just how to go about this.

The manuscript is back in my hands but since it came back I have been so busy with other things I have not had a chance to take up other points with you.

However, I do have some good news to impart. We can now publish monographs in a larger size than what we have done heretofore. This will clear up some of the technical problems relating to your manuscript, as I have never felt satisfied, and probably you have never thought our small form was the best. We can now lay out your manuscript much larger. The exact size has not yet been determined but it will be considerably larger than the old form.

I will be away for about two weeks and when I get back I probably will be busy catching up with accumulated work, but will do my best to begin again on your manuscript.

I have been hoping that J.S. Garza of Mexico City and the Club down there would help me on denominations and dates. Garza was up here a while ago and made various promises but several letters I have written him since then have been unanswered.

Very truly yours,

Curator

H. ks

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

April 27, 1936.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

After nearly three months without a word from you I was certainly glad to see your letter of the 18th instant.

The book by Mr. Raymond on Spanish American Gold coins is already in my library, and I shall use it in compiling or trying to compile the list of denominations coined each year. I doubt that, with the scant resources available in this part of the country, I'll be able to add more than a half dozen.

In dealing with Mr. Sanchez Garza it has been my experience that he is not eager to answer letters except when he himself is vitally interested. Years ago I purchased several hundred dollars worth of coins from him, and since then I have not been able to obtain a single answer to my numerous letters to him. Mr. Hill of San Francisco also complains along these lines. For some time I have been planning to go to Mexico City but for one reason or another my plans have not materialized.

What do you think about the cast pieces of Zacatecas of the L.V.O. type? I asked you about these in my letter of February 5, last. I hope you have formed an opinion.

The most important thing I have discovered in the last month is that there are MVA. counterstamps bearing the 1811 date. If you turn to page 16 of War of Independence period you will see that we only mention the 1812 date. It is my belief that the order was issued in 1811 consequently the first dies carry this date; then when the new year came along and following the usual custom the date was changed by making new dies which carried the 1812 date. As the war prolongued itself, engravers and assayers were in demand (the Guadalajara mint was closed for lack of the latter) the resurected 1811 die as well as the 1812 ones were used uninterruptedly until 1819. I have a cast peso later struck by the Chihuahua mint with regular dies. It carries the date 1819 and counterstamped MVA. - 1811. in the usual manner..

I presume that the twenty peso piece, mention of which was made by you Jan. 27th, and the one which appeared in the April number of the Coin Collectors Journal is the same one. I am sorry to say that this piece is not a conmemorative one. It is a pattern.

I have not received any letters or literature from Mr. Fosalba of South America, although he announced in his second letter that he was doing so.

Sincerely yours,

A. F. Pradeau

May 2, 1936

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.,
756 South Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Doctor Pradeau:

I got back day before yesterday and since then have been trying to answer your letter.

I have gone over a number of pages of the manuscript and am herewith submitting to you some of the changes and suggestions of the Committee; also I am enclosing a list of the Mexican Colonial coins we have as possibly there might be a date pointed to the assayer's initials you might not have on record. I will get after one or two collectors here to see if I can help round out the dates, etc.

Just where to put in the text this catalogue card I have not quite determined. We may have to combine in one place one or two of the items you have in several places because I have always had the feeling that some of the items in your text are rather scattered and would be hard for any collector looking up a coin to quickly locate.

I have looked over all of my Zacatecis pieces and find all of them are struck. I do not remember ever seeing any cast ones; therefore I can not give you any expert knowledge but I should say that these pieces are probably fakes. That is, made in recent times to supply a demand. A careful examination of these might show whether they are counterfeits of the time or of recent manufacture. I can see no reason why they should have been officially made during the Revolution as dies seem to have been very plentiful.

That certainly is an important find concerning the M V A type with date 1811. Will you rewrite this paragraph?

The 20 pesos piece I mentioned was the one that appeared in the Coin Collectors' Journal. I think Wayte Raymond will be

surprised to learn that it is a pattern.

Not a word as yet from Fosalba.

Here are some of the suggestions of the Publication Committee:

P.1, Introduction: They suggest you cut out the second paragraph beginning with "The author.....".

P.3, the heading: The word is "Media", not "Mediae". It is the plural of medium.

P.8, Pre-Colonial Period: Next to the last line both the Committee and I were bothered with your use of the word "obsidional. This strictly means seige. I see that you mean to state it is of an odd type. Why not cut that clause out, beginning with "....but were distinctly and definitely obsidional in type", and say simply, "As Pre-Colonia, as can be seen by the following data".

P.17, Colonial Period, (5) 19th line: You have the word "speculations". Do you mean "peculations"? If you mean "speculations", why not say instead of using one word, "and possible chance for speculation".

P.20. Line 22: "The Theologian Counsel". If this was the name of the counsel, all right. Or do you mean "Theological Counsel"?

P.22. As we are to pblish denominations and dates, we can either leave all the dates you have given here or cut this out entirely and put it in a new form elsewhere. There are two ways we can handle this matter. The way Raymond has done, which will take up considerable room but will leave blank spaces for any collector to insert other dates or we can put it in more condensed form, that is, beginning a line with eight reals and a continuous string of the dates know. Then start with 4 reals, two reals, etc. This, of course, should be divided under the different rulers.

This question, however, comes upt. It is almost essential to put in the assayers' initials against those dates. Of course on the coins of Charles and Johanna and Philip II we have no dates and only a very few dates on Philip III.

- 2 -
Dr. A. F. Pradeau
May 8, 1936

This is far as I have gotten in your manuscript.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks
ENCL.

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

May 11, 1936.

My dear Mr. Wood:

I have spent the better part of the last three days trying to comply with your wishes about the list of denominations issued each year along with the assayer's initials as shown by each coin. I checked the list of the ones you sent me with the pages 26-27-28 of the manuscript and it tallies perfectly. However, it lacks the denominations, and shall continue to work on it. As soon as you obtain information along these lines please send it over.

Thanks for your opinion about the cast Zacatecas L.V.O. peso.

I shall change the MVA paragraph.

Your suggestions for additions or ommissions to pages 1, 3, 8, 17, 20, and 22 have been made in my copy of the manuscript. Many thanks. On Page 20, line 22 the correction reads "Theological Council".

On page Colonial period 24, Gold coinage 7, seventh line from the bottom I have changed it to read "the years 1814 to 1820" as Raymond has all these dates on page 13 of his book "Spanish American Gold coins".

May I ask you if you have in your library copies of the Treasury reports (Memorias de Hacienda) of Mexico for the years 1857 to 1867? Even if it is only one I wish you would lend it to me, I may be able to find something there about the mints of Durango and Guadalajara. Both of these mints were leased from December 24, 1857 to 1867 and I suspect that they were rented to the same firm, which by the way, it is still an unknown quantity or entity with me. No one in Mexico has been able to help me with this point. The best they have had to offer is that the Guadalajara mint was never leased to any one from 1823 to 1895, and I have copies of the contracts with Symon & Camacho for the period 1880 to 1895.

During this month's meeting of the California Coin Club I had a nice chat with Mr. Wyman of San Francisco. Your ears were probably ringing, rightfully so, for we spoke about you a lot. He is an interesting fellow and his admiration for you borders worship. I am glad to be able to convey this information to you, for I have a lot of respect for your knowledge, keeness of mind and above all, your patience.

Sincerely yours,

A F Pradeau

May 12, 1936

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Doctor Pradeau:

I got hold of this catalogue of a collection of Mexican coins for sale and as the dates for all the pieces are given, this may be of help to you.

Please return it when through with it.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks
ENCL.

May 15, 1936

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.,
756 S. Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Doctor Pradeau:

Your letter of May 11th just at hand. I have not had a chance since my last letter to go over any more or your manuscript but will try to as soon as possible.

We have not here any of the Treasury Reports for the years 1857 to 67. As a matter of fact all we have were in a book we once sent you. We have inquired at the Hispanic Society next door and they have nothing.

By this time you would have gotten a list of the Collection of Mexican Coins that I sent you so I can see where you will have another busy evening.

You will find Arthur Wyman a most interesting and attractive personality. I have known him, as you probably know, from boyhood. Am glad he still thinks a good deal of me. I do know that if ever I wanted an advertising agent I would have him.

With best of regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Curator

HW ks

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

May 18, 1936.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

In compliance with your wishes I am including the list of dated coins showing the assayers initial or initials. In some years there appears more than one set of initials and these are indicated separated by a dash. (AZ-AG-RG of Zacatecas for coins of 1821) It is far from being complete and I hope that Mr. Raymond can fill in those in the gold columns which he has seen and for which he only shows the date. I was fortunate in practically completing his series as you can see. The year 1813 he left out completely. Was this done on purpose?

Have you a catalogue of the Antonio Vives collection of Madrid, also of Rafael Cervera of the same city of Spain. Also mint collection of Madrid.

There is an eight reales, also a four reales piece of 1732 without any assayers initials. The U.S. mint collection has a 1731 eight reales for which no assayers initials are given in the 1912 catalogue. In the same collection p.142, specimen No. 101 there is a one real of 1786 initials FF - isn't possible that this is an error? Specimen No. 10, p.135 - 4 escudos FM, and No. 49 page 139 - 8 Escudos, that may also be errors. Also especimen No. 73, p. 140, 4 reales of 1768 initials MM. Vidal Quadras y Ramon lists one-fourth real silver pieces dated 1813-1814 1815-1821 carrying the letter " G " as Guadalajara. This is an error. It should be Guatemala. The 1823 eight reales is in the Vidal de Valenciano collection of Barcelona. Have you the catalogue? It would be nice if we could obtain a photograph.

In the list that you were so kind in sending is a half real of 1597 and half reales of 1721-1732 and 1733 for which you do not show the assayers initials. The same happened for a one real of 1724; one-half reales of 1742-43-44-45-46-47. In the onefourth reales of silver of 1797-98-1800-1802-04 you merely say: no ~~date~~ Mint master. Do you mean no mint mark?

I am including also the lists you sent me of the "Coleccion numismatica Mexicana" which I found interesting but of no service in the work I was doing as it does not give the assayers initials. Can you tell me more about who is selling this collection and the prices they want?

There is a copper piece of 1769 illustrated under No.s. 10302 and 10303 by Vidal Quadras y Ramon. I have the specimens but I don't think they are coins. Medina is not satisfied with the valuation given of one grano, neither am I. Can you tell me anything about them?

Very truly yours,

June [illegible] 1[illegible]

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
605 Chapman Building,
756 South Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

Your letter has been on my desk for some days but this is the first chance I have had to answer it.

There was one thing I am afraid I did not make clear. The Committee wanted really a check list giving all known dates known of Mexican coins, this to be combined with possible with the Mint Masters' initials. What you have done is absolutely fine but we have to add to this list any specimens of which we do not know the initials. Of course this would apply chiefly on the very early ones.

Where we have caught the date on the piece but not the initial we can put them in to the arrangement by simply putting an x, a question mark or a star in stating on the head that the Mint Master's initials are not known piece indicated by a star.

In a few instances, where there is a whole run of dates with the same initial, it would be perfectly safe to put in the piece as though we knew the initial. In other words, if we should find a 1802 piece, the presumption would certainly be that it would have an F.

I was wondering about the 1818 piece that you have marked FD in Monogram. Could this not be F D? Philip IV you do not include in 1 real pieces. Possibly you know of some dates of which you do not know the initial. With those 8 and 4 real pieces of 1738 you can simply put in on the 8 real as you have with the 4, the word none. That would take care of that.

I have written Belote of the National Museum to check up the question you asked concerning the Mint Collection.

The only catalogue we have of Antonio Vives was his Numismatic Coins and his Ancient Coins going through the Roman period. I did not know he had any other catalogues.

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
June [illegible], 1[illegible]

We have not, and I cannot find, anything about Rafael Cervera and his collection. We do not have the Vidal de Valenciano so no help comes from me on that source.

The reason I did not include the initials on the half real of 1[illegible]7, 17[illegible]1, 1732 and 1733 and the one real of 17[illegible]4 was because the pieces were very worn or clipped and did not show. The 1/2 reals of 174[illegible] to 47 have an M as you show on your list.

On those quarter reals of 17[illegible]7 to 1800, I meant to say no Mint Masters' initials.

The manuscript of a collection I sent on largely for you to get any missing dates as I note he was not very careful of initials. I will go through this and add any dates you do not show, and mark them with an x or whatever we agree upon to mark them. All I know about it, it is a collection that Garza has for sale. He left it with Mr. Boyd. I have no further knowledge about it.

Concerning the quarter pieces of 1789, illustrated by Vidal Quadras, I should say these were pattern pieces. You know both of his are in fine shape and if yours are, would make it pretty positive they must be patterns as they have the Mint Mark M O, the [illegible] O must stand for [illegible] O. [illegible] what these pieces are as I have never seen them.

Very truly yours,

Curator

June 9, 1936

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Blvd.,
7565 Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Doctor Pradeau:

I have just heard from the Mint Cabinet in Washington and here are their answers.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks
ENCL.

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

June 23, 1936.

My dear Mr. [illegible]:—

I have just received your letter

July 2, 1936

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.,
756 South Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Doctor Pradeau:

Your letter of the 27rd reached here the other day. I put off answering until I had some good news, which is this: I just got permission to go through a large collection of Mexican coins, in fact the Liveright Collection. In so doing I ought to be able to fill up many of the blanks in the Mint Masters' initials.

I know you are anxious to get this work on the press. It should have been there long ago. It is my intention to get it on the press this fall but I have really got to do quite a little more with the manuscript. Unfortunately the past two months I have been extremely busy with work that could not be put off; also the past month I have not been feeling very well and consequently have not had the energy I should have had, and third, my assistant has been in very poor shape for some time and is going to be away most of July recuperating so that a good deal of his work has fallen to me. I myself will be away in August.

In a few days I expect to clear up a lot of things that have been hanging fire and will tackle the Liveright collection. When I get through with this I will do my best to finish up what I have to do on the manuscript but I think we can count on starting the thing towards the printer in September.

I have not seen the new nickel piece of Mexico.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

July 11, 1936.

Dear Mr. Wood:-

Many thanks for the good news of the approximate date in which the manuscript shall be placed in the hands of the printer. Also of the access you will have to the Liverright coll.

The list of coins for sale by Garza which you so kindly sent to me sometime ago has just now reached me directly. The whole collection is for sale at $ 4.310.00 U.S.Cy. f.o.b. Mexico City.

In going over the ms. I find that we have made no mention of the Spanish Colonial pieces of eight bearing Chinese characters or so called "chopped". Don't you think that it would be of interest to mention why the thrifty orientals began marking the Spanish milled dollars? Spink's Numismatic Circular of 1915, Vol. XXIII, pages 558-564 has a very interesting article entitled "Counterfeit Spanish Piastres issued at Birmingham" which we could incorporate in extract form. This article not only gives the reason for the practice but enumerates several differnt ways of counterfeiting the coins of Charles IV. Please let me have your opinion about this matter.

Just recently I have discovered a copy of the viceregal edict issued by Calleja in Mexico City regarding the copper pieces issued during 1814. The original value of the "cuartos"was set aside, and the 2/4 coin was equivalent to 1/4 of a real or cuartilla; the 1/4 piece was equal to 1/8 of a real or tlaco; and 1/8 coin was to replace the popular pilon having a value of 1/16th of a real. Thus 2 - 2/4 equalled one half real; in the same manner 4 - 1/4ths and 8 - 1/8ths were equivalent to one-half silver real. Do you think it advisable to insert the actual value of the cuartos as given in the two laws mentioned and then state that Viceroy Calleja saw fit to place this new value?

I received from Mexico City a legajo or expediente (a bundle of official documents tied together) comprising petitions and resolutions of the Guadalajara City Council dated from 1788 to 1793 requesting that a mint be established in that city. If you like we could say that efforts had been made since 1788 to have a mint in Guadalajara.

Please accept the enclosed coin. It is the new ten centavo nickel piece of Mexico.

Faithfully yours,

A F Pradeau

July 16, 1936

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Bldg.
756 South Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

Your letter of July 11th just at hand. I started work last week on the Liveright collection and then had to drop everything as I came down with a bad attack of gastritus, of which I am subject to and and then to top that off, I had arthritis in my left arm so I was out of the running for several days.

It would be well to mention that many of the Spanish American dollars, and probably chiefly the Mexican dollars, went to China and in the course of trade there were chopped by the Shroffs who were the testers of all silver for the Chinese Banking Houses. The earlier chops were in small Chinese characters, the later ones in larger characters. This chopping was not confined to Spanish American coins but any coin whatsoever that circulated in China received these bankers' endorsements. We ourselves have coins of nearly every nationality showing Chinese marks.

I haso have several of the counterfeit pieces issued in Birmingham. These had a copper base and were then silver plated, probably by the Sheffield process. The die work was most excellent and can be only easily told when some of the plating wears through. ~~The other~~

The other reason for the chopping of Chinese dollars was because the Chinese themselves reamed out all of the silver they could out of the center and filled the face with base metal, then carefully plugged up the hole made on the rim. Sometimes they took three single dollars and filed off the obverse andone, the reverse of the other and reamed out every bit of silver within, filled it with base metal and taking the third dollar, they split it, ground down the top and the bottom and used this obverse and reverse to solder on to the other two dollars. If I remember rightly, about 12 years ago I wrote this up in the Numismatist.

I don't think I would dwell too much on this but simply make a peragraph. Also, if you do this, a paragraph might be made that in the West

Indian, parts of South, Central and North American, Spanish American dollars, which would include the Mexican, were cut into pieces with various shapes to pass as small change. Some were counter-stamped and some were not. Sometimes the dollars had large holes punched in them and were then counter-stamped. The plugs taken out were also counter-stamped for use as sub-divisions.

The above remarks apply to a trifle less extent to the fractions of the Mexican dollars. In other words, Mexican pieces had such a wide use throughout the world that they were both used and abused.

I certainly would make what use you could of your recently discovered edict concerning the 1814 copper coins. I have not had time to compare it with what you have already written, but if it presents any new facts or corrects any errors, certainly make use of it. If you could give a very short account of the actions of the city council you mentioned, do so.

I beg to thank you for the new 10 centavo piece.

I am just beginning to feel like getting to work again but do not feel very husky as yet.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

Aug. 3, 1936.

My Dear Mr. Hood:—

I am enclosing a short addition to the ms. which if it meets with your approval, you may incorporate in any convenient part. Do you can see I lack the data of your two articles mentioned. Will you send it to me so that I may write it in my copy? Many thanks.

I am indeed sorry to learn of your gastritis and neuritis and I sincerely hope that you are now feeling much better.

There is a new five cent mexican piece out similar except for size and value to the ten cent coin that I sent you. I am trying to get a few and if I succeed you shall have a specimen.

Yours truly
A. F. Pradeau

Aug. 18, 1930

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
756 South Broadway,
805 Chapman Building,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Doctor Pradeau:

Please pardon the delay in reply to your letter of August 3rd. I was called away for a week and when I was here everything was falling on my shoulders as my assistant was in the hospital.

I have studied your manuscript addition and am returning it as you will note I am making one or two new suggestions. One about the way dollars were shipped to China and the other changing the word pillar on the West Indian counterstamped coins because most of these pieces were stamped on the head types.

Also, I am suggesting a few more additions.

I havd always realized that the Brazilian 960 reis pieces struck between 1810 and 1826 seem to be struck over Spanish American pieces. I carefully examined all of ours and every one is struck over a Spanish piece. I do not recall ever having seen one of these struck on a new planchett. This is rather interesting.

I would be glad to get one of the new 5 centavo pieces if you get enough to go round.

I have been trying for some time to get at your manuscript in real earnest but being here alone, it has been absolutely impossible forh so many interruptions.

I have talked over with Mr. Noe what you wrote me about the Spanish edition. While of course we have no objections to this, he thought it would be best if you wrote a formal letter so that we can lay it before the Publications Committee to the effect that you have a chance and would like to availabourself of having the Mexican Government publish an edition in Spanish.

If this is done, we presume they would like the original photographs so that they can have cuts made, or if we have it done in heliotype, the prints could be made at the same time as ours far cheaper than they could have it done by any process. If so, we would want to know the edition.

I will later let you know the size that this would be published in. We have not gotten it down to the exact fraction of an inch and it will presumably be the first of our publications in the new, larger size.

Can you let me know the name of the design on the back of the new 5 and 10 centavo pieces? It is not the regular calendar stone but I have a sneaking idea it is from a stone that has its own special name.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

August 25, 1936.

Dear Mr. Wood:-

Your suggestions and additions to the manuscript addition were splendid and I copied your notes almost verbatim. With reference to the first paragraph I just simply changed the "Spanish galleons" part to read shipping vessels, but the whole sentence may be changed to suit you. The last paragraph of the first page was also changed to agree with your comments.

If the Society has a copy for sale of the Volume XVIII where your article on the debasing of silver currency appears, I would appreciate your having it sent to me. This would complete my files.

The new five cents nickel piece that I promised is here enclosed, and as to the design it is the outer edge of the Aztec Calendar stone with very slight variations due perhaps to accommodate the whims of the engraver.

The formal letter to the Society requesting permission to make the translation is also enclosed. And with reference to having the prints made at the same time for the English and Spanish editions, I think it is a fine idea, but usually the Government of Mexico pays little heed to any suggestions. Besides, I would not wish to be responsible for the debt incurred. I shall communicate with Mexico at once and as soon as I receive a reply I shall relay it to you. They are very slow in writing and worse at deciding anything. I wrote to the director of the mint the early part of June and he answered July 31 in which letter he asks me for the date in which the mint was opened in Mexico City as they intend to strike a medal for the 400th anniversary. I answered immediately but so far I have not received reply.

Many thanks for your continued cooperation.

Very truly yours,

A. F. Pradeau

Sept. 1, 1936

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.,
756 South Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Doctor Pradeau:

Your letter of the 25th was here when I got up from the country today. As I am going back tonight, have nothing real to report.

I am not feeling over husky as yet and will probably be away most of September.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

Sept. 23, 1936.

Dear Mr. Wood:—

Your letter of the second instant was at my office waiting for me. I have just returned from a month's vacation and to prove me to know you are having [illegible] with your digestive tract. Take it easy and do not worry — is the best advice from a friend and [illegible]

October 15, 1936

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.,
756 South Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Doctor Pradeau:

I have been meaning to write to you for some time but until I had something to say I have put it off. I am beginning to get in harness again but for some time did not feel like doing any more than I actually had to. Also, when I came back from my vacation there was so much routine work, as well as back work, that every time I tried to get at your Mexican article, something intervened.

The problem before me now is the proper place and how to treat the new list of assayers' initials that we have prepared. I have added quite a number of pieces to this list which I am sending back to you. It is now almost a catalogue and I think we should so treat it. Therefore, we should make a little more of it, giving a line for the general type, and where a change of type occurs in the reign, we should insert a line there, especially around 1732 and later when the head types came in. You will note I have put down x's wherever I have found a date mentioned, but without the assayer's initials being given. However, in a large number of cases, it would be absolutely safe to put in the initials. If you think of any better form in which we can put it, let me know.

Really, this part of the book will be that referred to most and will be the most used. The question now comes where is the best place to put it? It seems to me a little out of place on page 25. The only other place I can think of would be at the end of the part "Colonial Period", unless you think it should be divided up; that referring to the gold following the section you give to gold; that referring to the silver with that section. If we put it anywheres else than at page 26 we are doing a lot of repeating. Therefore we should either cut out or cut down or change over pages 26, 27 and 28. All of this new part has been bothering me as to just how to treat it, and I should like to get your ideas on the subject.

From now on I will try to put as much time as possible on the manuscript. It certainly has been dragging too long, which is absolutely my fault. I was able a while ago to photograph quite a number of Mexican coins that will supplement the illustrations very nicely. I will send you these a little later.

Very truly yours,

Gordon

I have been thinking over the 1st issue of copper and have written the following (on separate sheet) to ~~supply~~ insert etc

Wish you would look up your reference to Torquemada on p. 21 and amplify it if you can also draw the mean mark or used in the countries mentioned you don't want it but [illegible]

[illegible]

The question now arises, what was this first issue? Was it like the second issue already described and which most collectors are familiar with, or was it of different design? The words of Torquemada cited above may give us a clue. Dr Rafael J Fosalba of Montevideo Uruguay now working in these coins always given as the first issue for Santo Domingo says that they were first coined in Spain, Mexico and Santo Domingo in the order named. Although commonly found in Santo Domingo, Puerto Rico and other islands and seldom if ever found in Mexico there is no reason to suppose that some were not made in Mexico especially as they come in several styles of execution kinds of planchets.

As they come in several styles of execution, [illegible] and [illegible] of planchets they could easily [illegible] made [illegible]

On Colonial Period Page 12 Copper Coins 3
Page 23 "
last ¶ without fear of being
mistaken etc is about different
designs for 1st & 2nd coinage.

In the light of Josalbis
letter would you consider
any of those Josalbis Santo
Domingo pieces as the first
issue. Nor implies they were
coined in Spain. Santo Domingo
is Mexico?
We any found in Mexico?
Do you want to state a possibility
in the these.

Silver coinage 2 P 36 did not decide 2
include that crude piece of the society's

under Chas v Johanna
or Phil II I still think the piece ∓ RS
is Phil II [illegible]

Page 60 amounts coined (6)
last line Tulio VI do you mean
Julio

[illegible]

so you want to show
any other forms than
the piece you show
in Page 13 such as

If so we
can make
a page of
them

October 21, 1936

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.
756 S. Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

Since my last letter I have been sticking fairly closely to your manuscript. I have been thinking over the first issue of copper coins and have written the attached. In other wrods, I have tried to draw the remarks of Torquemada, the results of Fosalba and our own conclusions together. Slaughter the copy that I am sending as much as you wish. I may be wrong in saying that these crude pieces of copper have not been found in Mexico or if so, seldom found. If you could extend the remarks of Torquemada a little more I wish you would. Also, do you know whether he says the pieces were struck in Spain, Mexico and Santa Domingo or were simply used there. That might have a little bearing on the subject.

I am enclosing pnotographs of the coins I recently photographed, which I mentioned in my last letter. These you can keep. Some I will use.

I suppose you know of the death last Thursday of Arthur Wyman. He was taken to the Palo Alto Hospital last Monday and died there.

At the conclusion of the section on copper coins I am adding a description of the 1814 pieces and I also should state the years the different pieces were struck. All three I know were struck in 1814 and 1815, but I cannot find the 1/8ths were struck in 1816 or 1821 nor the 1/4ths in 1821. Can you fix me up on that?

What conclusion have you come to about putting in the little aurter real that we have like this.... under Charles and Johanna or Philip II or Ferdinand VII, or leave it out. Also, the otherppiece like this that I once sent you. It weighs a quarter real and though thicker than the half reales of Philip II, I am firmly convinced in my mind that it is the quarter real of this ruler which you state on page 36 is today unknown. If we do put it in here, I will make the change in my manuscript where you state no specimens are known.

On the last line of page 60, heading Amounts Coined (6), you speak of Tulio VI. Is this an error for Julio? If Tulio, we should put an

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

October 26, 1936.

My dear Mr. Wood:

This will answer the points raised in your letters of the 15th and 21st. of the present month.

With the additions made by you and the assistance I received from Romero de Terreros of Mexico City and from Mr. Voetter of San Diego, I was able to fill in quite a few blanks on the assayer's list which I am now enclosing. The only ones left are those in border line dates. If we are to put in an asterisk or star in these blanks we may take the room that individual collectors would use in filling in this information if they obtain it. We may add as a foot note that we have seen or we know of the existence of the coins for all dates, but that we were unable to record the initials. The list as it goes back to you, with notations in between, will take the place of pages 26, 27 and 28 which I have revised and the additional information inserted in the pages now being returned. As to the location I leave that up to you.

Your photographs were received and I wish to thank you for the courtesy. I havent had time to study them yet.

The copy you sent me about the first copper coins was very good, but I took it upon myself to re-write it. I hope you don't mind. I am enclosing my version. I extend to you the same privilege of slaughtering it if you find it necessary. I could not quote Torquemada as he does not say anymore than what I had translated.

We are grieved at the death of our friend Wyman. We had been so closely associated with him. He visited us frequently and was present at our last meeting. He was a splendid fellow.

Thanks for adding the description of the coppers of 1814. As you know they were minted in the three denominations for 1814, and 1815 only. During 1816 only 2/4's and 1/8's - And in 1821, 406,400 pieces of 2/4's denomination were issued. The proportions of the other years I do not know.

As to the silver cuartillas I would attribute the one with the castle and the lion as of the 1552-55 issue. The other is without doubt a coin of the Philips. As we positively know that there were no cuartillas minted we must classify it as a half real. I would place the photograph of the first, immediately after the penult paragraph of page Colonial period 15 (Silver coinage 2) and ommit the part of no specimens being known.

Last line - p. 60 - where Tulio VI is mentioned. We are justified in questioning this word. The book gives that name, and I would not venture to say if they meant Julio or Julius VI. Please use your own judgement.

Your idea of incorporating the different types of hoes is an excellent one and I am in accord with it. Regarding the hoes, I found an interesting book on the subject and I am sending you a page and a half of the parts pertaining to our subject. Would you like to incoporate them in the part selected by me?

Very truly yours,

A. F. Pradeau

November 2, 1936

Doctor A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.,
756 S. Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Doctor Pradeau:

Despite many interruptions, I have been making considerable headway on the manuscript. I have, however, been making a number of changes, i.e., wherever you described coins I am putting these all together and making a continuous section, taking up the description of the coins under each ruler, giving the numbers struck and the sizes struck. As you may remember, you have had these in various parts and I have come to the conclusion that anyone looking up a coin would find it much easier to go to just one section.

The doings of the mint and the various mint laws I have kept together. Also, part of the heading Silver Coinage and Gold Coinage. Following this I will have the section on the coins themselves. This will be the largest section.

I note on page 22, where you give a list of early dates, you list the dates 1615, 1617, 1665 and 1667 which you do not list under the heading of assayer's initials. Cannot you dig up any more information about this, as to what denominations they are, and possibly the initial.

I think you should say a little more about Rincon, especially as his initial appears on the very first issue and you might also state the fact that he was later summoned to Potosi to start that mint.

I note that Guttag in his book on Page 201 says something about the cob pieces that you do not mention. Don't you think you should say something about these?

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

November 2, 1936.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

Your photographs sent me doing additional work on the Zacatecas mint and as a result I am now enclosing nearly two pages of revised material to take the place of the half a page of the original draft. Please look it over as critically as you know how and let me know of your verdict. There are so many varieties for this mint that it would be endless to begin, so I would recommend that we do not enter into them in this work. Where the assayer's initials are AG I find that the cross bar of the A has been left out in quite a number of pieces of 1820, and 1821. Do you think it worth while mentioning it? A G

The Oaxaca pieces of eight show two varieties of reverses. One with a large lion and the other much smaller. Will you please insert this notation [illegible] page 5, to follow the third line of the second paragraph immediately after "is the Castillian Lion" or anywhere you like better? Many thanks.

Mr. Hill of San Francisco came in Friday and showed me a rubbing of an eight reales of Zacatecas counterstamped L.C.V. and 7-3/4. He has promised to send me the specimen as soon as he returns to San Francisco, at which time I shall have it photographed.

Having nothing more for the present I close sending you my best wishes for improved health,

November 9, 1936

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.,
756 South Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Doctor Pradeau:

Your letter of November came several days ago. In the lot I saw I only picked out a fiew of the Zacatecas coins that I thought in good enough shape to photograph. No two pieces were exactly alike but I think I covered all the main types. If I get a chance I will try and look these over again. I do not think it worth mentioning about the leaving out of the cross bar in the A of AG. This occurs too many times in numismatics.

I will fit your two notes in where I can. I am glad Mr. Hill communicated with you about that L.G.V. piece with 7¼ on the back. I made a note of it to write you and then mislaid the memorandum. I found it the other day.

I have managed to put in some little time on the manuscript but get called away repeatedly. I remember I took up with you in the spring about omitting the number of pieces coined each year and in the manuscript marked against this "out" but do not find in my file any letter of assent from you. The committee were anxious to cut this out. The manuscript is now getting so large that we may have to prune rather than add. Personally I really think that if we simply state where we can the amount of gold and silver coined for each reign, it would be enough. I doubt if collectors would be much interested in these figures as experience, especially in recent years, has proved they tell almost no story. One can seldom judge rarity by the amount coined unless the figures show that only a very few pieces were struck in a certain year.

To ppint these tables would be rather expensive and would be very hard to arrange properly on a page, especially as we now have similar tables of the years, pieces are known, and the assayers' initials.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

November 9, 1936.

Dear Mr. Wood:-

Your letter of the 2nd. was received last Friday. The coins to which you refer in your third paragraph were specimens sold in different auctions and as usual they do not give any information. I regret not to be able to supply the information you request.

The fourth paragraph has reference to Rincon. Through Saturday and Sunday I tried to obtain additional information about this man, not having succeeded I have planed to go to the public library and consult works not in my possession. In the mean time why not add the information you mention that he was summoned to Potosi to start the mint there. If this is so, the long debated question as to which mint was opened first will be settled.

The fifth and last paragraph. If you look up the two pages entitled "[illegible]" you will find that I give the information mentioned by Gutagg on Page 301.

I am now enclosing two more pages on the Provisional mint at Chihuahua. This material is in the same order as the one I sent you for the Zacatecas mint. Before I write anymore I would like to have your opinion. As you have noted, a few errors have been corrected. Have you ever seen an L.V.O. coin dated 1812 ? In my first draft, and also in the mint ~~masters~~ assayers initials list I have L.V.O. coins for 1810, 1811 and 1812. Upon close study I find this to be an error. Do you agree with me?

what initials for 1812 in mint masters [illegible]

In the Chihuahua mint. Have you an 1814 peso struck ? If so, then we must change the paragraph to read " By 1814, this mint had been supplied....." instead of "By 1815, or perhaps the year previous....." - If we can not find an 1814 struck peso, we must look for a cast one of the same date. Can you help me out? Many thanks.

The other parts of your letter need no comment as I feel that you know what is best for the average collector.

Respectfully yours,

A F Pradeau

November 11, 1936

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.,
756 S. Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Doctor Pradeau;

Your letter of the 9th just at hand. I have not yet had time to digest it but will do what I can about Rincon and will look up and see what I can about the L.V.O. and the Chihuahua coin.

The chief reason for this letter is to send on some photographs I have just taken. I am enclosing four different minor types of the so-called San Domingo copper pieces. As we are now dwelling at length on these as possibly being the first issue, we ought to illustrate one or more of them. I cannot illustrate too many, but I would like to show the one that might possibly have been made in Mexico. From fabric and dye work, as compared with the second issue, I would say the larger piece that I have marked #1 might be the piece. Or we might show two specimens. Most of our pieces either came from Porto Rico or San Domingo. You need not send these back as I have specimens here. Only give me the numbers on the back of what you prefer to show.

I am also including photographs of Philip III, IV and V.It is most unusual to get one of these rough cobs of Philip III showing the thr e I's. Finding these pieces makes me conclude that those pieces with the shading at the bottom of the crown should be assigned to Philip III. I have just seen a hoard of about 20 of these from different dies but all of them have same kind of shading. This piece was the only one that showed they were Philip III. That of Philip IV shows a different kind of crown and I am enclosing a nice one showing the four I's and the date, 1654, which we will illustrate.

By the way, the escutcheon on this piece is of what? It remained on all of the arms until the Bourbon arms took its place. Also, got a rather nice one of Philip V which I think worthy of being photographed.

There is quite a series of these small round pieces and I am mentioning this fact. You can keep these photographs.

I am also including a photograph of the 1769 piece which you questioned some time ago as possibly a pattern. I have not gotten in my present reading up to Charles III as yet, but think you mentioned it.

Am also including nice pieces of the copper halves and quarters that we brought up before and which I think you rejected as not being Mexican but which may be. These last three pieces I have only the one photograph so would like them returned with your comments.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ka
encl.

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

November 16, 1936.

My dear Mr. Wood:

Your letter of November 9, third paragraph, again brings us to the subject of amounts coined each year. I thought that the last two lines of the first paragraph of your letter of July 18, 1935 had taken care of this point, and it was agreed that the lists were going to be incorporated leaving out the last column of totals. Once more permit me to insist that the material be incorporated, as I would like to have this work as comprehensive as possible. If you only knew the difficulties I have encountered to obtain the material you would agree with me that nothing should be left out. Time and money have not been spared by me and I feel that the complete work would be a source of pride to the Society. I can appreciate your point of view, I know that it all costs money, but boiled down, the lists of the Colonial coinage comprise only 142 lines, which at the rate of 66 lines to a page would make less than three pages and the cost of three pages for one thousand copies of this material cannot be prohibitive.

Keeping my promise I have finished an extensive research on the subject of Rincón, and I have incorporated the information into a new phase, that of the opening date of the mint. As I told you before, Mexico City wrote me asking for data and although I sent my information of June 4, no reply has been received. Please give me your honest opinion of this new material and where would you like to incorporate it. Temporarily I have inserted it following the chapter on "The mint".

I am also sending you a revised sheet on the dated coins, mink mark, and Superintendents of the mint. The one sent previous to be destroyed. Please send your comments on this new sheet.

Your letter of November 11. - Many thanks for the photographic material sent. I am returning the ones you requested be sent back. I agree with you that No. 1 of the Santo Domingo type of coppers might be one made in Mexico. In my next letter I shall try to answer your question about the escutcheon on the Philip IV cob. If you refer to the biographical sketch for this monarch you will find on the second paragraph that the arms of Portugal had been added, but I'll make sure.

About the piece of 1769. - I have studied it carefully and my investigations have been fruitless. As it was customary to have a number of apprentices in all branches of mint labors, and these were compelled to show their proficiency every so often, I found that the apprentice answer submitted once a year a pattern, not a copy of any known coinage, but a design original with him. Don't you think it is plausible to assume that these two (one large and the other smaller) pieces were patterns ? There are not many, perhaps half a dozen or so, therefore they cannot be classified as coins, issued. All of the specimens known are uncirculated.

The copper halves and quarters may have been TLACOS or some sort of private coinage but not Iranian-Colonial. If you examine them carefully you will note that the workmanship is crude and does not compare favorably with similar coins of Mexico. The only coinage that we cannot account for is that of Charles and Johanna, would it be it?

Sincerely yours,

A. F. Pradeau

November 19, 1936

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.,
756 S. Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

There were two questions in your letter of November 9th that I did not answer. I have just looked over about a hundred L.V.O. coins and find only the dates 1810 and 1811; Therefore we can safely cut out the date 1812 and I have cut them out on the manuscript. That leaves the line for 1812 vacant. Would the later initial fit in there or should this line stay vacant?

As regards the Chihuahua Mint, we have a peso struck over a sand-cast one, but the last figure of date is nearly obliterated, but I think it can safely be a 4 as the few remaining marks of the numbe can be nothing else but a four. I have changed this paragraph.

In your letter of November 16th you can put your mind at rest concerning the yearly coinage, that is the numbers struck, leaving out the totals. That letter of July 18th I must have mislaid. What you had written about Rincon and the other facts of the first year are fine. I am inserting these near the bottom of the mint chapter, page 2, after the two lines about copper coins and before the next paragraph, the original building. This is the best place that I can locate. It should be no further off than just about here.

On page 1 in the 6th paragraph I have cut out "the operation of which began some time after the month of August, 1536", unless you say leave it in. To my mind, it is either wrong or if right, it appears conflicting on the surface.

I wish you would add a few more words about Rincon going to Potosi. Medina mentions this in his Colonial Coins under the chapter, Potosi. As you can read Spanish and I can only stumble along you can get more out of it than I. I can tack this paragraph on to what you have already written.

Your other sheet I am looking after and will put in their proper places.

I will also put on the plates the Santo Domingo type that we both picked out.

Concerning that piece of 1769 I really think like you do that it is a pattern but having the Mexican Mint mark on it, we should give it some mention, describing the dates and stating that this is probably a pattern and stating the probable reason why, as you have written, that is, apprentice work.

Also I think we should mention the 1/2 and 2/4 pieces, stating that these have generally been assigned to Mexico, showing that they are undoubtedly not governmental pieces, but either private tokens or possible the issue of one of the Central American countries. This we can put in at the end of the copper coinage section. The reason I think these three pieces should be mentioned is because someone will surely say we have been negligent - what about these pieces? - and it is better to forestall than to apologize.

I have had very little chance the past week of doing any more on your article, partly on account of the local convention they are holding here this week.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

on the mint Page:
6 ff have but out
a the operation of which
began sometime after
the month of August
1836" as either manner
is conflicting

am inserting this near
bottom of (P. 2 mint)
after the 2 lines about
Copper coins and before
"the original bldg."

upon the nomin

Wher
yourself known
welcome you pe
in a way which
any portion of
especially int

November 20, 1936

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Bldg.
756 S. Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

I have just stumbled against something that rather disturbs me. In looking through a Glendining and Co. Catalogue of Central and South American gold coins held on Wed. and Thurs., Mar. 11 and 12, 1936, I note the following: Lots 231 and 232.

In case you do not have this catalogue I am herewith sending you the two coins illustrated. 231 is a gold coin in very rough shape with the assayer's initial M. Although catalogued as a coin of Philip IV it surely must be of Philip V on account of the Bourbon arms in the center, as I have never seen these arms on any previous coin.

You do not mention any assayer with the initial M. This coin must be of the early part of his reign.

#232 is a gold 8 escudo piece of 1733. Although it has an 8 E on it it is absolutely of the type of the silver issue. Looking at this piece closely I think it is a fake, probably changed over from a silver coin, cast and then chased. If you look at the 8 and E carefu ly they don't look good to me; also the lettering looks as if it had been hand tooled and especially the 33 and the rosette following it, while the northwest corner of the shield has been engraved by someone who did not know just what he was doing. Can you give me your opinion of these two pieces when you return these illustrations? The first I think is all right.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks
Encl.

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

November 23, 1936.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

Satisfying your wishes expressed in your letter of the 19th, I have written something on the cuartos coins and on the patterns of 1769. Please look it over and let me know your reaction. As you accepted what I wrote about the date of opening of the mint, it becomes necessary to change a couple of paragraphs and I am including the revised ones. Also three lines about the assayers initials on the Zacatecas provisional coinage of 1812. I am writing "No initials" in the space provided in the list of mint assayers.

For the Chihuahua provisional mint, eighth paragraph, please change the date to read 1814 and cross out "perhaps the year previous".

Many thanks for agreeing to leave the amounts coined in the monograph.

Regarding Rincon. Medina refers to Alonso del Rincon in the Potosi section, page 211, foot note No. 1 and page 212, first line, as being the first engraver of the Potosi mint, with 45 years experience in Spain, Mexico and Peru. On page 39 of Mexico mint, he refers to Francisco del Rincon, [illegible] at the time the mint was opened, and that he had a letter of recommendation [illegible] del Rincon and Alonso went to Spain sometime previous to 1546, and while residing in Madrid Alonso died in 1555, yet on page 153, foot note 18, he [illegible] is too contradictory to include. You will note that the 4th paragraph of the mint sheet that I am correcting he speaks of the director of the mint at Granada [illegible] Viceroy who did the installing and who actually was the Treasurer of the Granada mint. However you let me know, and I shall try to work out a solution to this puzzle.

Please don't forget your article which you promised to look up for me. And if it isn't too much trouble, would you have your photographer make me a set of prints of the 1/4 - 2/4 - and patterns of 1769 ? I will gladly take care of the cost.

[illegible]

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

November 24, 1936.

Dear Mr. Wood:-

You are right in your assumption that item 231 is an eight escudos of Philip V. It must be of a very early date, 1700 or thereabout as the design is similar to the known specimens of Charles II. The first three letters of the kings name can be made out, so there is no doubt about it. The other gold piece is a rank counterfeit. The cuts sent are here enclosed.

On page, gold coinage 1, the gold coinage is given as amounting to $ [illegible],114.00 and mention is made that it varies with the official figures which I quote on "Amounts coined in New Spain" p.3 - Would you leave it as it is or have the two figures the same. I just thought it might create some confusion if we quote the two. If you decide to eliminate one, I would change the figures on page 2 of the Amounts coined in New Spain to correspond to those of page 1 of Gold Coinage.

The page included on the Guadalajara provisional mint will take place of the old material which you have. This is much improved. You will note that including the four escudos there are five types of gold coinage. Raymond only gives three. Vidal Quadras y Ramon gives the fourth one, dated 1813 with the hair dressed forward and closely cut. I was fortunate in obtaining a detailed list of the amounts coined which I am sure you will like.

What are we going to do about the assayer initial M ? Where can we incorporate it ? I had seen it but I can't yet find a place for it. Perhaps the best way would be to write a note which we could insert somewhere. Please let me know.

Very truly yours,

A. F. Pradeau

November 25, 1936

Doctor A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.,
756 S. Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Doctor Pradeau:

Your letter of November 23rd just at hand. I have included in their proper place all of the additions you sent on and made the other changes. As for Rincon, in trying to read Medina I got more and more muddled and I now see why. I think something should be said that either Alonzo or Francisco went to Potosi and helped open the Mint. In other words, do the best you can so we can add it to what you have already said about Rincon at the Mexican Mint.

Wayte Raymond brought several fine casts of early Mexican coins back from Europe. I have not seen them yet but will have them for illustration if we need them. Also, I spent the other afternoon down there and verified and checked up a number of dates and added a few.

There is a possibility that I may be able to lss the late Colonel Green's coins so we can clear up a lot of the assayer's initials.

I have made so many changes in the manuscript that as soon as I have it in shape for the printer I will send it on to you for final verification so that as many changes as possible can be made in the manuscript rather than in the galley proof. I am now working on Ferdinand VII.

After looking through all of my extra copies of the Numismatist I cannot find the article you want. I am having a boy look through the Society's duplicates and if we find one we will send it to you. Otherwise I will have our man photostat the three pages and send those to you. I will also have prints made of the three copper coins.

Very truly yours,

December 1, 1936

Doctor A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.,
756 South Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Doctor Pradeau:

I am herewith sending you the manuscript of the Pre-colonial part for a final checkup before going to the printer. You will note I have queried here and there a quotation either for spelling, punctuation or for something else. I wish you would verify these. Also, I am cutting out, where I can, italics. This will be chiefly on coin denominations because it is not necessary and it also makes a page look spotted. Italics for books and most foreign names are all right.

The rest of the manuscript, up to the Revolutionary period, I am working over for the printer. I have added quite a good deal, especially in the description of the silver coins and have thrown over a lot of other sections so that everything I can stick under the different rules I have. This is from a view point of where it would be easier to find.

Your letter of November 24th at hand and I will use the print of the gold coin of Philip V. The other piece I felt absolutely was a counterfeit. As for the amounts coined that you mention, I would leave as is for the present. When we look at the proof as a whole we can then change it if we think it would avoid confusion. As for the assayer's initial, M, I simply would make a note under the assayers' list which I have under Philip V that the initial M appears on certain of his coins but unfortunately the dates are lacking.

I think this will be all for the present.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

encl.

December 3, 1936

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.,
756 S. Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Doctor Pradeau:

I am now plunging into the revolutionary coins. I have been studying what you have written on the Chihuahua issues. I have looked over about 30 of these and in no instance do I find the countermark between the two columns other than what is apparently a pomegranet. At any rate it has not an S.

All the struck pieces I have found dates run from 1 14 to 1820. You mentioned in one place up to 1827. Have you any confirmation or proof for the years 1821 and 1822? All of the cast pieces have a large C A. I have carefully examined all of the struck pieces and find only a large C with a very small A. No instance of a C alone or a large C A. As all of these pieces seem to be struck over cast pieces, these letters do not always show up well. On a struck piece, stamped over a cast piece dated 1816 there is an incuse P before the T, the only instance I know of. It is a rather curious thing, but I have never seen a struck piece on a new planchet. Every one are over cast pieces. In other words it looks as if the Mint was doing its very best to get rid of all of the cast pieces. Why they should have gone to all this bother I do not know. It occurred to me that possibly not having adequate machinery for rolling out strips of metal, they cast frompplanchets, but if they do this why should they bother to make cast planchets with impressions of the old 8 reales pieces when they knew that this would make a very poor job, when they could much more easily cast blank planchets. I consequently rejected this theory and simply stated that all struck pieces seem to have been struck over cast pieces, without offering any explanation.

I forgot to mention in my letter of the other day we have got to be very careful in seeing that all spelling is uniform. Wherever possible I would like to use the English equivalent of place names and I just caught Castile spelled with both one and 2 ll's. We had better adopt one l spelling; therefore keep your eye out for this.

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
Dec. 3, 1936

I will send the Colonial part of the manuscript on shortly. I am having various parts I have written typewritten.

I have done nothing in arranging the plates as yet because the Committee has not met this fall for final determination of the size of the printing and the extreme size we have for illustrations but hope to have things far enough along so that when they do determine the size we can get things going as soon as possible, as I am more than anxious to get this out of the way and I know that you are.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

December 4, 1936.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

In answer to your letter of November 25, conveying the good news of Mr. Raymond's fine busts and the possibility of your seeing Colonel Green's collection, that is excellent.

As to Rincon, I have added as a note:

"Melin 's assertion that Alonso del Rincon, who aided in the opening of the Potosi mint, was the first assayer of the Mexico City mint, is not correct".

Many thanks for your offer of a photostatic copy of your article. I have been trying to get it elsewhere but without success.

In my last letter I failed to ask you to change page 8 of Gold Coinage to coincide with the four types of gold coinage of Guadalajara as given in the last few sheets that I sent you.

The silver coins of Ferdinand VII that I have and the illustrations available to me coincide with your memorandum. Thus we have two types:

The first, with larger bust, dressed in Roman tunic with shoulder ornaments simulating epaulets. Large flowing ribbon back of the head. This type is found in the 8 reales pieces of 1808-09-10-11-
in the 4 reales " " 1809-10-12
in the 2 " " " 1809-10-11
in the 1 " " " 1808 to 1813 inclusive.
in the ½ " " " 1808 to 1814 inclusive. These last coins do not show the denomination.

The second type, has a smaller bust, usually from 2 to 4 millimeters smaller than the first, is dressed in a simple or plain tunic, and the ribbon back of the head is not so pronounced. This type is found in the coins from the date given until the independence of the colony changed the coinage.

In the 8 reales pieces from 1812
" " 4 " " " 1813
" " 2 " " " 1812
" " 1 " " " 1814
" " ½ " " " 1815

In the next few days I shall make a more extensive survey and if I find that I am wrong I shall let you know.

Yours sincerely,

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

December 6, 1936.

Dear Mr. Wood:-

Your letter of the first, along with the Pre-Colonial portion of the manuscript was received, and I have verified osler which should have been osier every word was copied as found in the source given. If you concur with me that misspelled words should be corrected wherever found I think that we would be breaking a viscious cycle. Therefore, with the exception of the word Colombino on page three, I have changed word Colombino? Perhaps Columbian would be better.

Lord Kinsgborough's quotation from his Mexican Antiquities nine volumes, each about three inches in thickness and each page 22 x 17 inches, was found by me during my early researches, but have lost the place and as a result I cannot give you the volume nor the page. I shall devote some time on it in the next few days.

Your suggestion that the word counterfeit be substituted by adulterated is excellent and the change was made. (Page 6) On page 8 the sentence in which the word "characters" was used has been changed. On page 9-A end of second paragraph the word Motezuma is so spelled in the original. It is a quotation and if you think it is advisable to change it do so.

The first acceptable paragraph of page 11. About a year ago I sent you a page from a newspaper giving pictures of some gold trinkets. Do you think advisable to mention that? Mrs. MaCormick, has a gold eagle of the Aztec period which was found in dragging a lake. I did not see this until recently. She is now in Chicago, but if you like I can either have it photographed or borrow it and send it to you. In a recent trip I made to San Francisco I found several of similar pieces in the museum, so, I believe they are not rare and their authenticity certain.

On page 14, tepuzque coinage, I have super-imposed two fly leafs which seem to interprete my meaning a little better. Would you care to select from the three?

The last paragraph on page 15. I took the liberty of changing it a bit. I hope you don't mind. I have tried to eliminate the personal pronound from the whole manuscript. It is my belief that it sounds better. Don't you?

Most grateful for your many corrections,

A F Pradeau

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

December 9, 1956.

[illegible]

The points raised by your letter of the third are here taken up.

As to the Chihuahua counterstamp being a pomegranate. You are absolutely right. The letter " S " is found in the Vargas issue. By the way, in the royalist issue of Oaxaca, an " O " is found between the crowned pillars of Hercules and I believe you would want to include this bit of information. I should have known better than to include the S under Chihuahua as the royal officers of different parts of the country used different initials.

On the 1816 coins of Chihuahua you are also right. The specimen that I have does not show the small capital A well but upon close inspection traces of it can be made out. Therefore, please omit that part.

Regarding the amounts cast, one of my sources of information says that quite a number of cast pieces were rejected and apparently stored. Later these were sent to Durango and Monclova but no explanation for such action is given and I presume it was due to the lack of coined money. That these rejected pieces were later used by the Chihuahua mint to be struck I explain as being an emergency step taken when the revolutionary and nearly always victorious insurgent troops closed in on the caravans transporting back and forth viceregal orders and much needed materials.

From now on I shall see that the English equivalent of Spanish names appear in the manuscript.

Just this moment I received four books from Sanchez Garza of Mexico City, but apparently there is nothing new that I may add to what I have written. He has been appointed Director of the Numismatic Salon of Chapultepec Castle, is full of good ideas and expects to publish something important in a short while. He is asking for my cooperation and without doubt he means to publish the monograph in Spanish. The Director of the mint has written me a letter dated November 23, but is silent about previous offers and arrangements. By the way, have you and Mr. Noe acted upon my letter asking your consent to have the manuscript translated?

The pre-colonial period was mailed a few days ago and I trust it was received in due time.

Sincerely yours,

A. F. Pradeau

P.S. — I have found that the N.G. of the 2 reales silver [illegible]

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

December 26, 1936.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

Along with your letter of the 16th pages 16 to 79 of the monograph were received and judging by the amount of work I had to put in to change my copy to coincide with yours I must admit that you have done a lot, not only in the amount of material added but in improving the text and the re-arrangement which I believe is excellent.

Enclosed is a page giving in detail the changes made. This will facilitate your checking the alterations made by me. There are a few important points which I wish you to let me know of the decission taken.

I think that with only one exception I have followed your suggestion to omit. The one or two repetitions that you did not catch were ignored by me because they seemed to go in quite well with the rest of the sentence.

A new reverse of the triangular piece will be made and forwarded to you as soon as I get it.

By the time your above mentioned letter had reached me I had digested your article on the debasing of silver which you were kind enough to send me. I appreciate the favor immensely and if there is any charge for the process, please let me know.

You will note that on page 24 I added the names of two assayers of the Mexico City mint.

And I believe this is all for the present.

Permit me to wish you a Happy and Prosperous New Year and may I add HEALTHFUL as well?

Sincerely yours,

A. F. Pradeau

Notes on changes made on pages from 16 to 78

16 - Inserted the second paragraph. Entirely new material.
17 - Your complaint about underscoring. Done to emphasize. May be cut out.
18 - corrected date on 2nd. paragraph and gave source.
[illegible] - I believe this information quite important, will serve as guide in assigning disputed coins. Added some words to No. 4 and changed the last paragraph.
[illegible] - Added a few words to the fourth paragraph.
[illegible] - Altered the beginning of the second paragraph.
[illegible] - The new values fixed by the Viceroy on the copper coins were added.
[illegible] - Vidal Quadras y Ramon, Vol. II - p.319, No. 8112 describes a two escudos coin having the symbol Go. assigned to Spain. It is dated 1616. Would you say something about it?
[illegible] - The San in the last paragraph was changed to Santo (Domingo).
[illegible] - Added foot note.
[illegible] - Added a line to 6th paragraph.
[illegible] - Fifth paragraph has the word senoreaje. Would you change that for the English equivalent seigniorage? You may cross out the one you prefer. Added something to the penult paragraph and a foot note.
[illegible] - Last line of third paragraph has been changed a bit.
[illegible] - Added the words "two of" to the 9th line.
[illegible] - Made a few changes on last paragraph.
[illegible] - " " " "
48 - " " " " on 1st. paragraph.
49 - " " " "
50 - Do you want the list of assayer's initials labeled. You may cross it out if you don't. Also would you like to say something about the initial M found in the coin of about 1702?
[illegible] - M.K. mint mark - Don't you think that would be better if incorporated opposite the year as with the other initials or should we use some other symbol than x for a foot note?
52 - Added a new sentence and changed the word nearer for "after" in the 2nd. line of your description.
53 - Added to third line.
54 - Would you look at this page? I have re-written it.
55-a - Has also been re-written. Please compare with your own which is also included and you may tell me which one you decide to keep.
57 - Two more lines have been added.
[illegible] - Added a few words to description of silver coinage.
63 - Changed a bit.
64 - Has a narrow strip tacked on over the paragraph which it intends to replace. I believe it sounds better. Do you agree?
65 - On the list of assayer's initials for Ferd. VII, year 1822, the statement appears that no gold or silver coins were struck by the Mexico City mint. Yet on page 66, 3rd. paragraph the statement is contradicted. Would you please advise me as to what change you wish to make?
66 and 67 - Have re-written description of Silver and Copper coinage. Would you compare it with the one sent and select the one you prefer?
68 - Recapitulation as to types has been added. Do you approve?
69 -
72 - The 3rd and 4th paragraphs were substituted by what you suggested.
77 - Changed the first line a bit.
78 - Last paragraph. End of 3rd. line. Would you insert that "this practice was not followed in Spain, except in the one instance of the quartered Provicional de Zacatecas coin counterstamped J.M.L. which see"? Please advise me on this.

pages 74 and 76 were not among those sent.

Should [illegible] pages of illustrations

December 16, 1936

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.,
757 S. Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

I am at last sending you the manuscript of the Colonial period. I have partly gone through the Revolutionary period but there is still more work to do on that. This I will send you as soon as possible.

This Colonial period has taken me a long while to go over the third and fourth time. You will notice I have made very drastic and substantial changes, transferring whole parts and reconstructing other parts. I hope you will not take offense in this. I didn't do it for just something to do but because I thought that for anyone reading it, it would be easier for them to find or refer to. Also you will note I have added the description of all the silver coins. I have left your descriptions of gold coins about as you have them.

You will note I have also gone through the manuscript preparing it for the printer, cutting out most of the italics and taking the 'th' after the day of the month; also abbreviating references, all of which is in accord with rules laid down today for the printer. If there are points like this that I did not catch, I wish you would try to nail them. Also, I may have not caught all variations of spelling. In a few instances, I have substituted one word for another. In two or three places I have marked a suggestion to omit. In a few places I have cut out where things were repeated and I know that there were one or two repititions that I did not catch.

In your letter of December 8th on the manuscript of the Pre-Colonial part, I have left errors as you did where the error occurred in your quotation. I simply wanted you to check these.

We are going to have a great many illustrations and I think that the gold eagle can be left out leaving simply one illustration for the Pre-Colonial pieces. ThèseI will use as a frontis piece showing various

forms of those copper implements.

The rest of your suggestions I have attended to. I think it would be well as you mention in your letter of Dec. 6 to cut out some of the personal pronouns.

Your letter of Dec. 9th, which takes up the Revolutionary coins, I will attend to.

I am expecting the Publication Committee to meet any day within the next week or ten days and have your letter concerning the translating of the manuscript for a Mexican edition. I see no reason why they should not acquiesce. I have received back the Pre-Colonial period.

I am glad to know that the N.G. piece is for Nueva Galicia.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

P.S. The manuscript is going forward to you under separate cover, registered.

January 4, 1937

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.,
756 S. Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Doctor Pradeau:

Your letter and the return of the manuscript came Friday. I am really surprised that you were able to go through it the way you did in such a short time. I have gone over your changes and agree in nearly every instance.

You, however, made no comment on page 58 concerning whether we should put in a table the Pillar dollar of 1772 which is pictured in El Duro, page 223, #685.

Page 38: I consider 'seigniorage' the better word.

Concerning your query on page 32, I would say nothing about the V Qy R gold coin of 1616. It is too early for Mexico and there are several undoubtedly Spanish minted coins that do look like Mexican. Take for instance the piece on page 47, #16 which looks even more like a Mexican piece and the mint mark certainly looks like M although he calls it a Pa. We have enough trouble on our hands as it is without looking for more.

Page 50. We might as well say what we can about the M found on the coin of 1702 so let me know what you want to say.

Page 51. I will see that the printer makes the proper mark to show that we are putting in a footnote.

Page 54 and 55. Are okay as you have written them.

Page 64. I have cut out mention of the year 1822 and put in a note "for coins dated 1822 and 1823 see page ------".

Page 66 and 67. Am using your description

Page 78. As far as I know, this was the only instance in Mexico of cutting up a dollar and as we were giving generalities, I may leave this out. The piece is illustrated later on and I think this will be enough.

Pages 74 and 76. We did not send because they were simply pages of photographs.

I have tried to keep on the Revolutionary series since I sent you the last manuscript but have found it slow work as I am describing in detail the various pieces which you only did in spots. I have been obliged to forsake this the past two weeks as I have been closing up my books for the year and preparing reports for the Annual meeting which takes place on the 9th, but managed to put in a little time now and then.

I sent on that manuscript with fear and trepidation as I was afraid you might not like the way I had changed it around. It was rather drastic for an editor. There is no charge on those photostats. I should have been able to send you the copy of the Numismatist.

I managed to get through the holidays without any stomach upset worth mentioning and feel a little better about myself.

Wishing you a prosperous 1937, I remain

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

My dear Mr. Good:-

Your last request of a new photograph of the triangular piece is hereby complied with, also you will find a photograph of the [illegible] - 7¾ eight reales piece of Hill. This man has been more than kind in [illegible] ascending to have his pieces photographed for the [illegible] and I have assured him that we would give him adequate credit. Do you mind?

With respect to the contradicting information furnished on page 65, I have looked up my source and it says clearly that doubloons were coined in Mexico City using the Ferdinand VII dies, but specifies that the date should be that of the year of [illegible] either 1822 or 1823. Have you seen any gold pieces of this mint bearing the above [illegible] dates? Silver was not coined by the Mexico City mint after 1821 and that seems to be definite.

Please have the enclosed check credited to my membership of the present year.

The California Coin Club saw fit to elect me president for this year and to-night we have the annual banquet and installation of officers. I am attaching one of the programs.

My best wishes to all of you for a happy and prosperous year,

A. F. Pradeau

January 8, 1936

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.
756 S. Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

In working over the Revolutional coins there are a few questions that have come up. On the coins of Zapatecas, on the L V O coins you state there are three varieties, the third variety being like the second, but cast. I have never seen a cast piece and I am inclined to think that any so found are fakes. Therefore with your permission I would like to cut out any reference to cast coins. In the illustrations I would like to show a really good 1811 or 1812 Provisional head type 8 real piece. Mine are poor, both in striking and being worn. If you have a good one and could send it on we could photograph it. Also a good specimen of the regular type of Zapatecas of the poorly cut dies between 1813 and 1820. All of ours are poor.

Under Nueva Vizcaya you speak of the little copper piece dated 1820. All I have seen are dated 1822. The one illustrated in Medina, although he thinks it is 1820, is really 18221 The photograph you sent on is also 1822. Therefore I think this copper piece should go into the next section under Augustin. I have been spending some time describing the Revolutionary pieces.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

Many thanks for your letter of the fourth instant. The reason for omitting to say something about the 1772 peso is that I wished to investigate whether or not it was a mistake. As you know, Herrera does not illustrate nor even describes such piece. He only mentions its existence. This appeared queer to me. I have corresponded with a number of collectors and carefully looked in my own, but failed to corroborate or deny its existence. In doing this I unearthed a royal edict prohibiting the coinage of money using the old dies. As it is dated May 29, 1772, I have used my imagination and have inserted the following paragraph on page 37, to follow the fourth:-

As to the assayers initial M found on the eight escudos of Philip V I have inserted the following paragraph immediately after the first paragraph of page 52:

The selection of the places for the above inserts is only of a tentative nature. Should you prefer to place them somewhere else please let me know.

My sincere thanks for your many courtesies,

January 15, 1937

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.,
756 South Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Doctor Pradeau:

Your letter of January 11th just at hand and I will fit the two insertions in where I can, which concern the 1772 peso and the M on the Philip coins. I am herewith sending you prints of those small copper pieces you requested sometime ago. I am also enclosing the piece which you can keep, one of the LVO's. On the reverse in the shield appears in raised letters A L D. It looks like a counterstamp. Possibly it is something the remains of a previous piece on the planchette but I really do not think this piece was struck over another coin. I am somewhat puzzled as to whether this is a counterstamp and if it is, what it is all about. I will let you worry about it.

We have been photographing the past week a lot of our coins for illustration. I am progressing slowly on the Provisional issues but have not been able to do much lately on account of our Annual meeting. This, however, is now all through.

I have forgotten whether I answered your January 5th letter which came to hand enclosing photographs of the triangular piece and the 7-3/4 piece of Hill's. If I don't give him credit, we will slip it in somewheres on the proof.

Concerning Ferdinand VII gold pieces of 1822 and 23, I know we mentioned them somewheres as having been struck under Augustin. Raymond also informs me that he is sure Colonel Greene had pieces of this date.

Congratulations on being elected president of the California Coin Club.

With best wishes, I remain

Very truly yours,

Curator

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

January 19, 1937.

[illegible]

Your letter of the 8th. has left me somewhat perplexed and try as I might I could not find first, where I said that the third variety of the L.V.O. type of coins was cast; second an 1811 or 1812 of Zs. head type, 8 reales piece for illustration, in my or the collections of others available to me here; thirdly a good specimen of the regular type, Zs. mint, of the poorly cut dies between 1813 and 1820 - [illegible] I have never seen any that was poorly cut - all of mine are as perfectly cut as those of the Mexico City mint with the exception of the planchets which for 1813, 1816 and 1817 were not of even thickness thus causing the imprint of the die to be deffective. Would you please enlighten me upon these points? On the L.V.O. type of coins I only found one thing that I failed to mention and that is that some coins had the date inverted and others had it in the accepted manner.- Not long ago I sent you two pages - revised ones - of the Zacatecas mint, were you referring to them?

See Medina 8 [illegible] top [illegible]

Your observation about the Nueva Vizcaya copper coin of 1820 is very accurate and I am eliminating the information given by me regarding such pieces. Do you think advisable to mention that Medina is wrong about them? Please let me know if you care to insert a foot note.

In looking over the first page of the revolutionary period I did not quite like it and as a result I have written the enclosed two pages which I hope meet with your approval. The portion pertaining to petitions made for branch mints does not mention the petition for a mint at Zacatecas which is taken up in the Zacatecas chapter, and I thought it would not be necessary to repeat, but you may, if you like to have all this information under the same heading, transfer the three lines from the Zs. chapter to the preamble that I am now sending.

Should you care to have one or more of my perfectly cut Zs. eight [illegible] ones, some of which are in mint condition, I shall be delighted [illegible] you for photographing purposes, or I may have them photographed here. The years available, good enough to be photographed are of 1819, 1820 and 1821.

It seems that the Mexico City mint insists on believing that the mint [illegible] ned during 1537 and as an argument this is all they have told me: [illegible] is other data which can be considered reliable" but failed to mention it, [illegible] I have asked them for it and the source. Should they send it I shall [illegible] cate with you post haste.

A. F. Pradeau

Jan. 19, 1937

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.,
756 S. Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

I have been spending about a week looking over hundreds of Morelos coins and picked out to photograph the chief varieties of the common types and have been listing some of the copperstamps. In reading over your description I think you should say more about Morelos, especially from the coin end. I note that Barstow in the A.J.of N., Oct., 1896, has some interesting facts, namely a letter he wrote someone where he was striking copper coins from half reales to 8 reales, except tostones. That is why we see no four real pieces.

You have furnished photographs of a number of the scarcer pieces, especially several of the four real pieces. There are a lot of these odd pieces in silver that I consider fakes or very doubtful. Certain ones one never sees except in uncirculated condition. I am going to make a few remarks about some of these pieces as being very doubtful in their authenticity. Outside of the mint of Oaxaca you do not mention where possibly the bulk of the copper pieces were made. Possibly no one knows. At any rate you can speak of the T C pieces of which you make no mention.

There are certain pieces in Low's 1899 sale, Calderon Collection, with a V before the value. Does this mean Vale? Also, the little silver piece of half real struck should be included. This I will do. You show a similar one real piece in an unnumbered page called Miscellaneous pieces of doubtful origin.

I have got to go away for a few days but will be back shortly.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

January 29, 1937

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
80 Chapman Bldg.,
756 S. Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Doctor Pradeau:

Your letter of the 19th at hand. Since my last letter to you much water has gone under the bridge, as they say, but unfortunately in the wrong direction.

I was called up to Boston for a few days due to the sudden death of my brother-in-law. On my return back I found that my assistant, Mr. Robertson, had dropped dead of a stroke on the day I returned. Since then I have not been able to do anything more on your Mexican coins and although I have been slow on account of many interruptions I am afraid now that I will be even slower. No one wants to see this in the press any more than I do. I think I wrote you that I am up to the Morelos coins. I have these all laid out, all ready to write them up. My greatest trouble for a while will be to get what I want photographed as Mr. Robertson did all of our photographing.

Concerning my letter of the 8th that mystified you. I have not had a chance to look through your original notes but I do remember you said distinctly that the Vargas dollars were of three kinds, namely those made from punches, those with the large Vargas and those that were cast. On your page of illustrations you marked the third picture cast. However, I have corrected this so you do not have to concern yourself more. Of the facsimile pieces I am sending on the best photograph I have of the provisional type with the head. I simply want to get a photograph of a better looking coin.

As regards the poorly cut dies, I am enclosing the best one I have which is dated 1810. You will notice this compares in no way with the better cut dies of 1809 and 1811. If you can improve this, showing a poor head, I wish you would.

January 29, 1937

Also, comparing Medina page 214, the type given, you will see that that head is almost a caricature. I have fine specimens of the later dates, that is of 1820 and 21.

I think I have noted that on the LVQ's sometimes the date runs one way and sometimes another. I will try to change on the manuscript that Medina is wrong about dating the copper pieces 1820.

I am glad that you have made a change for the first page of the Revolutionary Period.

I think it best to keep where it is the three lines you question under Zacatecas rather than in the preamble, as it really applies more to Zacatecas.than to the preamble. If you have better specimens of the coins you mention I would appreciate it if you could photograph them.

There was a meeting of the Publications Committee yesterday and everything has been settled concerning the Mexican article. That is, that it should be published in the large form, the size determined upon, and one of the Committee has taken to read over again that part that has been completed and which I sent to you. The question of publishing the article later in Spanish was approved by the Committee but they felt they did not have the authority to give final approval and as submitting your request to the Council which will meet in two weeks' time and as far as I know, they will give permission.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

February 7, 1937.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

It is indeed sad and disconcerting to part with the loved ones and I wish you to know that I am sorry to hear of all your loses.

One of your previous letters, I believe it was that of January 19th you asked me to write something about Morelos coinage. To-day I am enclosing a few pages on the whole subject of Morelos coinage. It is really a symposium of all the material I was able to gather. I suspect that you will think that it is mostly history and very little about coins. I agree with you, but in order to understand just why one makes certain assertions it is absolutely necessary to have the historical background. I have incorporated a few items, such as the price paid for cannon balls, food, etc. to make the reading less tiresome, and at the same time bring out the relative value of Morelos currency at the time. I have worked for a long time on this particular phase of our subject, and even though I am not entirely in accord with Low, Leon, Bastow and others, I feel that my conclusions are well based on historical facts. I regret to have to burden you with additional material and will appreciate your candid opinion.

It did not occur to me to think that you were probably speaking about the Vargas pesos instead of the L.V.O. coins of Zacatecas. I am glad the matter is settled.

The photographs that you sent me of the 2s. provisional type with the head is no worse than my coins of similar date and type. The same applied to the 1816 2s. coins. I shall try, however, to obtain better specimens.

It pleases me to know that you liked the preamble and I presume that no corrections were necessary.

The news conveyed by your letter of the 29th of January as to the size of the book & the possibility of obtaining permission to publish it later in Spanish, have pleased me very much, and I have you to thank, as your efforts in my favor have been many.

Attached to the sheets on Morelos, I am sending you a page on the coinage that I have seen which is indicated by the word yes, and those that I have not seen are indicated by the word none. At the bottom of the page are a few remarks, not to influence you, but to let you know my reaction. Please don't hesitate to call me down.

Sincerely yours,

A F Pradeau

February 13, 1937

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.,
756 Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Mr. Pradeau:

Your letter with the details of the Morelos coinage at hand. You have done a fine job on this and it has been most useful to me in checking up my cataloguing of the coinage, which I have now finished. It has upset one or two of my conclusions but I am now changing these over except in one or two instances.

When I send on to you the manuscript of the Revolutionary Period, which I hope will be soon, you can reconcile what I have written with what you have. I have just had a lot of these coins photographed and when I send on the manuscript will send on the photographs to date on the Revolutionary coins. Your page on the coins that you have seen and have not seen does not agree wholly with my findings. This you will have a chance to check over later.

Although I wrote you that Bastow quoting Morelos said that no 4 real pieces were struck, if we look at the date of this letter, he said that in 1811 and much could have happened afterwards. However, I think no 4 real pieces were struck for circulation but a few patterns might have been made. On page 2 of your Morelos, line 6, you say SUR. Do you or do you not mean SUD?

The fifth paragraph I do not agree with you because very few of his copper coins were struck. All of that terrifically big issue of 8, 4 and 1 reales appear to be struck but I do not include the few fancy design ones, of which as a rule silver coins are also known. Therefore I would either cut this paragraph out or modify it. You do not need to report to me on this until you get the manuscript. I am simply warning you to be ready for this.

On the last line of page 3, have you any authority for saying that Morelos attempted making silver money by the casting process. If this is

right it is really quite important as most of the silver was cast.

The last paragraph on page 4 is a little ambiguous. On the 5th line from the bottom, "to each and to the other I have seen that each received its full weight". To my way of thinking, this refers to one person or the other swearing allegiance, not to one kind of coin and the other. I wish you would look up the original. If it means as I think, the first paragraph of the next page would have to be changed.

On page 7, second paragraph it is too bad we can ot identify the gold coins the royalists found. Were they Morelos coins or regular Imperial pieces?

I had rejected the TC pieces as being made at Tierra Caliente on account of die cutting, fabric, shape of box, etc., but considered them as the 1813 issue for Oaxaca, but as you definitely state the TC pieces were made at Tierra Caliente, I am changing my attribution over.

I think what you have written is fine.

I suppose you have or know of the book in 3 volumes, "Morelos, Documentos ineditos y poco conocidos," publicaciones de la Secretaria de Educacion Publico, Mexico, D.F. 1927. I found this book the other day on our shelves.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

February 17, 1937.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

Permit me to tell you that your letter of the 13th, ~~that~~ I just received gave me a thrill, because out of all the mass of information compiled in the Morelos work sent to you earlier during the month, you took exception to only a few points.

Your remark about the four reales pieces is timely. I thought of the same thing. Much could have happened in the subsequent years, but as the number of fifty cent pieces (4 reales) in existence is very limited, not over ten or twelve at the most, I am inclined to think as you do, that a few patterns might have been made.

The word SUR, as given is found so spelled in the source and that is why I placed it there. However, SUD and SUR are used interchangeably in the Spanish language, using one or the other when the phonetics of the sentence require it.

The fifth paragraph about the cast coins in copper. Are you sure that they all are struck ? Upon close scrutiny they appear to me to have been refinished or retooled cast pieces. In many of the specimens one can see the marks of the file with which they were not only trimmed around the margin but over both surfaces as well. There is no doubt that some were struck, because some are even eccentrically placed upon a round planchet, but it is my belief that the statement of Morelos, in his letter from Oaxaca, admitting that the coins he was sending were cast, implies that some were struck, but this same statement corroborates the fact that many were cast. The only way to settle the point would be by the coin itself.

The last line on page 3. I have no authority for saying that Morelos attempted casting silver pieces. It is a deduction obtained from the many books consulted which became a reality with me, and is substantiated by the the last paragraph on page 4 which to you seems ambiguous. I thought so at the time I wrote it, but for fear of being carried away by my enthusiasm I translated the line quoted verbatim. It does not refer to persons or acts but to coins, and that is why, the first paragraph of the next page, bears different wording. Morelos clearly says that to the Oaxaca coins, made by the dies authorized by the royalist commander, and the coins that he had made with his own dies or patterns were ordered witheld if they did not weigh the full ounce. Now the question is, did Morelos ordered each coin that he found already made with the Oaxaca, Ferdinand VII dies weighed, or did he ordered more made using those same dies? Morelos letter is ambiguous in this respect, and I quoted his words to leave the interpretation to the reader. If you like, make the change that your knowledge and experience dictates. I am so happy to know that the historical sketch is going to be incorporated that any change for the better will be more than welcome. The whole subject, it seems to me, had never been studied thoroughly, and a few facts were used here and there, and were not correlated, leaving, in many instances, the wrong impression. While the article sent to you was somewhat lengthy it was boiled down from three previous drafts, and clearly indicates the time spent by the southern leader in the different places and the possibility of making money by their primitive process at each place.

[illegible] the royalist found were Morelos coins and bore the [illegible] symbols [illegible] the value as expressed on the known specimens with an " R " for reales where escudos were meant. Or as I believe, these gold coins were ordered cast in limited numbers (because of the lack of funds, necessitating [illegible] melting of gold jewelry to have them made) and were intended [illegible] ([illegible]) [illegible], to be sent to Morelos adherents that were rendering services to the insurgent cause in royalist territory. They were definitly not of the regular imperial [illegible] and probably were intended as souvenirs rather than a means of exchange at any value. See "Leona Vicario" under Morelos Coinage Insurgent provisionals. last paragraph

[illegible] in the research. Many thanks for calling my attention to them, I might not have had them. As it was I obtained them shortly after they were published and are part of my extensive library. I don't remember having mentioned before but I have well over 2200 volumes, most of which deal with Mexican history.

Many thanks for your words of encouragement.

Sincerely yours,

[illegible]

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

February 22, 1957.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

Since the 17th, when I wrote you last, I have been doing some research in papers emanating from Oaxaca and from the files of General Rayon. As a result of this work I found

1 - the amount coined in Oaxaca by the insurgents during five months.

2 - That silver was being cast in Oaxaca, and that it was suggested that to prevent counterfeiting it should be milled round the edge.

3 - Discovered that silver was being struck at Angangueo. A brand new place, never before mentioned.

4 - That cast coins, copper, was in circulation everywhere.

I am also sending you a resume of the Coleccion de Documentos ineditos y poco conocidos, enumerating the page and the translation of the part quoted. This work is in three volumes and is the one you found in your library. I thought you might like to read it and you may keep it if you wish.

Now, I am going to refer to two different items. The first is that the nude bust of Ferdinand VII was proposed in a secret meeting of the Cortes of May 16, 1811 and approved June 2, 1811.

The next is that the N.G. (Nueva Galicia) coin of Mr. Liverright of your city was ordered struck by Brigadier General Don Jose Maria Vargas, Insurgent Military commander of the district.

A. F. Pradeau

P.S. Another point I failed to mention is the part played by Luis Rodriguez Alconedo, which I mention in the Coinage of Oaxaca, Royalist provisional, p.4, fourth paragraph. He really comes in 1814 as you will see by the next to the last paragraph in the enclosed sheet.

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

Monday, [illegible] 1937.

[illegible]

I am [illegible] of notes pertaining to the coinage of pesos, in his territory, and of the [illegible] pertaining under him. The [illegible] from which these notes were taken is in six huge volumes, with no index, therefore it became necessary to go through them. This is to be last on this subject.

I am somewhat confused with the new information you [illegible]. Your letter of the 1 th. tells me that there were [illegible] things. On the first sheet that I sent you, a resume of volume V, p.111, says that General Payon on July 7, 1817 declared all cast coins counterfeits. Underscored with red on the page that I am now sending you will see that Liceaga, on Sept. 20, 1812 declared the same thing. Maybe we better re-write the paragraph to coincide with your views, which supported by the information here mentioned appear to be the correct ones.

It is my belief that the bit of information pertaining to the Mexico Provincial of Guanajuato, stating the amount reported coined is of particular value. On the other hand the amount reported coined by Morelos in Guanajuato from the time the city was captured to June 30, 1813 is now increased to a total of $ 102,000.12

The 21 silver bars coined by Berisbain in border of Guerro. I did not find the actual weight, but I have the weight of 90 of the 110 silver bars received by Morelos, and with a little effort we could determine the average weight in marks, add the 10 % alloy and find the approximate amount in pesos. We could add this to the Guerro paragraph. What do you wish?

The Mexico City mint insists that the mint was opened 1537 and not 1535. Two [illegible] were offered [illegible] by the great historian resident in the city of Mexico. I am now taking the matter up with him and shall let you know of any developments. In the mean time I have discovered that Viceroy Mendoza in the decree of July 15, 1536 specified that the silver reales were to be worth 34 maravedies. This is a substantial endorsement of my contentions. If you turn to page 38, third paragraph of "Notes on the silver coinage," you will find that due to the risk of transporting the Spanish real to Mexico it was valued at 44 maravedies. As by the law of Jun.24, 1578 the real was brought down to the continental value of 34 maravedies, we can safely say that this corroborates the statement that silver was being coined in Mexico previous to July 15, 1536.

I am now after the place of coinage of the 2 reales piece of [illegible] mined by Mr. Liverright.

Please comment freely on these findings.

Sincerely yours,

A F Pradeau

March 2, 1937

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.,
756 S. Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

Your last three letters at hand. They had so much meat in them that I have been busy ever since digesting your new mass of material. I have finished going over with a fine toothcomb all of the Revolutionary staff and have had my notes typewritten.

I am also mounting up all the photographs relating to this subject because you can read with better understanding this section with the photographs to look at. These are just roughly pasted down with rubber cement. Later I will mount these carefully on the page size layouts for the engraver. There are more photographs than I presumably will use but it is well to have too many than too few. Just when I can get these to you I don't know, but it will be a matter of a comparatively few days. When you do get it you do not have to rush to send it back as I have got to do all of the mounting of photographs for the first part. This revised first part is now being read by one of the Committee.

When you do get the Revolutionary section, you will see historical gaps on some of the coinage, and if you can it may be well to add a few words here and there of a historical nature as you have been doing to some of the sections lately. To my mind from a collector's standpoint, the Revolutionary Section will be the most important as it really contains more new information, especially as this coinage has never been very well done.

When you get to the Morelos section you will see that I floundered around a little and with the notes you have sent me, it may be a little bit patchy and possibly you can put the whole thing in a little better shape.

As for coins being struck or cast, I have had to make a pretty extensive study of this ever since I have been here on account of counterfeits, etc., and I have seen a great many hundred Morelos coins. This is the result of my observations: Most of the silver is cast; occasionally one finds a struck piece. The only consistant struck ones are

the small silver Oaxaca pieces with the lion on one side and the bow on the other. This was definitely a struck issue.

Virtually every one of the copper pieces are struck that conform to the two standard types - the plain background and the ornamented background. These that depart from either of these two varieties are invariably cast although once in a great while one finds a struck piece. Therefore throughout your manuscript I have avoided stating whether cast or stmuck but have said "minted" or "made". My experience has been that officials and historians who have no definite knowledge of coins often use the word "cast" instead of "struck". I think I have now ironed out most of the little queries I made and which you have answered.

I think that Royalist find of Morelos gold coins very important. This is the best reference we have to show that Morelos did attempt to make some gold coins when he had a chance. It is almost an axiom to say that any gold coins later outlawed or not of regular government issues would be quickly melted down or that it is no surprise that only a few of these pieces exist today.

As regards your letter of February 22nd, I am incorporating the various notes you mention. If you do not always like where I incorporate them, switch them around where you think they would fit in better. I think it well to use nearly all if not all of these. I will add that note on the new bust of Ferdinand VII in its proper place and I do hope you will find some more information on the N.G.piece of Liverights.

In reply to yours of February 29th, you must have been doing an immense amount of research. I myself can do very little of this as I do not have the material and do not know Spanish. Also, since my assistant died, I have less time than ever to concentrate and when I do I am interrupted. I cannot do much work at home as I have a number of things cut out for me to do there. I am saying this because this work is dragging along most frightfully, all due to me, but I am putting everything else aside whenever I can to finish this up. I will say that the thing is now virtually done.

Concerning the opening of the Mexico City Mint, unless you get the information you want in good shape, you can make whatever notes you want concerning it when you read the proof.

Very truly yours,

HW ks

Curator

March 3, 1937

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.,
756 S. Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

After writing you yesterday I spent the rest of the day finishing up your article and am sending it to you by registered mail, together with all the photographs of the Revolutionary pieces.

As I wrote you the other day, you do not have to rush this back because I will be some time getting the photographs of the first part mounted up.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] steadily for [illegible]

[illegible] over the second half of the [illegible]

[illegible] suggestions and addition were i[illegible]

[illegible] to you. In every instance [illegible]

[illegible] you was found timely and [illegible]

[illegible] I took it upon myself [illegible]

[illegible] of some sentences, [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] new or [illegible]

[illegible] I [illegible]

[illegible]

A. F. Pradeau

Memo

My solitary Charles & Joanna seems to raise a problem about the assayers initial as it is pretty clearly Q.

I think that for the coins before 1700 we should ask Berlin & the BM for lists of what they have. It is not much perhaps but the coins are so few a fuller record is desirable surely! Also for Louis I, 1726

[illegible]

26. IV 37

Mar. 25, 1937

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
756 S. Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

The manuscript arrived day before yesterday and most of yesterday I spent going through it. Everything so far seems to line up in good shape and I have found no questions to take up with you. I will keep at this now, mount the photographs for the engraver, etc., and see how soon I can send it to the printer.

Although I have just gotten an asistant, a good deal of my time will be taken up for some time in breaking him in. Also, a fairly large collection has recently come in and another one is on the way which will also engross me.

This is really to let you know that I have received the manuscript.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

March [illegible], 1937

[illegible]

Your letter of March 25 has just arrived and it pleases me to know that you found the revised notes to your liking.

I am now sending you a page with three inserts, which I have tentatively incorporated to the pages enumerated. Please let me know if this material is acceptable to you and if the places designated suited you. Each note is self explanatory and I could'nt help but feel chagrined at the attitude taken by the director of the Mexico City mint. It seems to me that as his inquiry came to me July 31, [illegible], which at best was 16 days after the possible 400th anniversary, he is trying to protect himself by attributing the opening date to 1537 and thus have sometimes [illegible] which to prepare the medal. I believe that as soon as the book is out the Mexican government will try to discredit its authenticity or the truthfulness of the statement, [illegible] we insert this note, they will not have a very sound argument, as the chance was given to them to disprove my findings.

Sincerely thanks for your many courtesies,

A. F. Pradeau

April 28, 1937

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.,
756 S. Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

I suppose you have been wondering why you have not heard from me. The fact of the matter is that shortly after the last Committee meeting one of the members of the Publications Committee took your manuscript home to read it over. He was taken sick and after repeated requests from me to return the manuscript, I am now getting it back in parts. He has corrected some of the English and has made a few suggestions. However, little time has been lost because in the meantime I have gotten together some more photographs and have been mounting these up for the plate maker. I have now got to incorporate in the manuscript the various plate numbers. When this is done, which should not be long now, I will have it ready for the printer.

The Publications Committee thought that we had not gotten the final word as to early issues - that all of the European Museums should have been approached as to what they had, especially the German and French Museums. To some extent I have taken up with the British Museum certain questions and have gotten some new material. It is now rather late to do this because it would delay publication a number of months. Here, however, are a few questions which I would like straightened out:

1. On page 11, in the middle of the last paragraph, where you state "all the handles are pointing toward the center of an imaginary circle, <u>each forming a right angle with the other handles</u>, and the curved or cutting edge form a segment of the circle corresponding to the quadrent in which it was placed." The underlined parts bother me as I cannot see just what you mean.

2. On page 10, 3rd paragraph. You quote a book by Dr. Nicholas Leon. Can you give the date of this book?

3. On pages 24 and 25. The Committee raised this question and that is, in the few instances where one can check the initials appearing on the coins, etc., why not indicate those names? This might be done by putting asterisks in front of the names and so stating at the end. If you can do this, indicate the names and I can put the asterisks in and make the change.

One person thinks he has a Charles and Johanna one real piece with a Q instead of an O but I think it is either a die break or a double cut O and am not including it

Also, they think a little fuller record in table form should be had for the coins of Louis I.

I have put the inserts that you sent in your letter of March 30th in their proper places.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

May 5, 1937.

Dear Mr. Wood:

In reference to your letter of April 28, second paragraph, it would have been wise to consult with the museum mentioned and I feel that if we lay the foundation as well as we are able, we would have accomplished a great deal. We may not be perfect, although we have tried to be as accurate as possible, but we are pioneering on a subject so far ignored by students of numismatics. There is this consolation, however, that shortly after this work is published if there is any slight error, anywhere in the book, some collector will pick it up and will let us know. Thus, contributions from far and wide will help to increase our knowledge on this branch of coin collecting.

Your question number one is explained as you suggested by the enclosed drawing.

The book referred to in your question No. 2 is:-

Lyobaa o Mictlan. - Guía Histórico-Descriptiva.
Dr. Nicolás León.
Mexico.
1901.

As to question 3, I am sorry but I am unable to check but one initial against the assayer's names. Francisco del Rincon, first assayer, who most likely used an R as his symbol on the Charles and Johanna coins. Would you risk put it down as such? Do you think that the specimens carrying this letter could be called the first ones minted? I am not at all sure he used the R as his mark. Perhaps if the members of the committee go over page 23 they may realize that in later years there were two main assayers, each of whom used an initial, which could easily have been the given name or the surname, and if we try to assign them we would be guessing, don't you think so? The second paragraph of page 23 clearly states that the assayers shall mark the coins with a sign or mark which was recorded with the notary of the mint, and believe me, I left no table unturned to obtain at least one of those notary records, but my searches were fruitless.

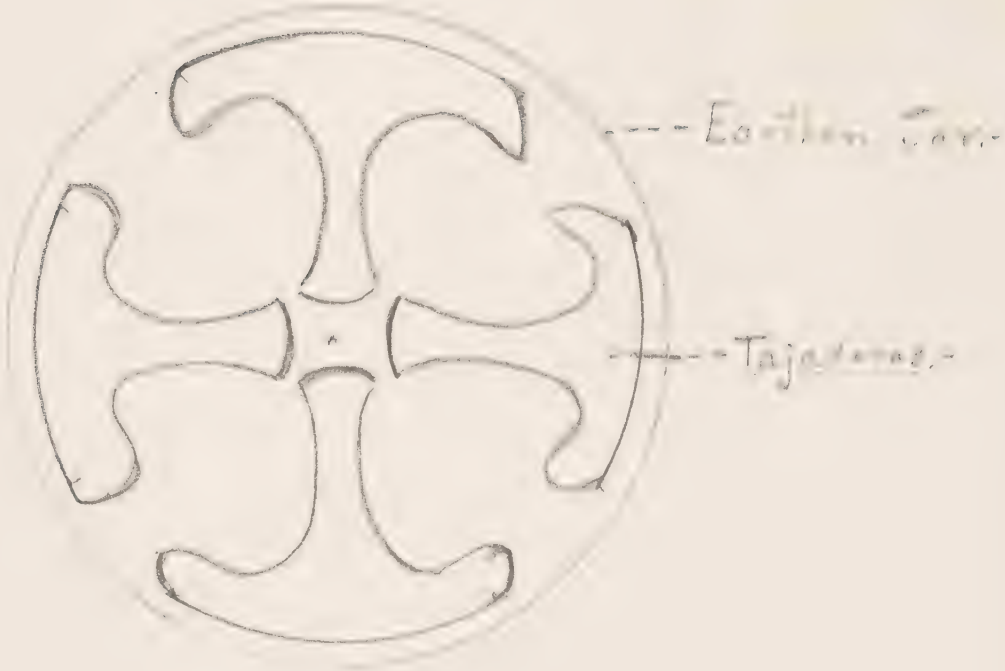
I wish I could add more to the recorded information on the coinage of Louis I. If you could give me a lead I would be glad to follow it up.

I have waded through three of the nine volumes of Mexican Antiquities by Lord Kingsborough, looking for the page in which the statement quoted on p. 3 of my manuscript appears. I shall continue searching. These volumes have no index.

I trust my explanations are satisfactory to you.

Sincerely yours,

A. F. Pradeau


Earthen Cov.
Tajadones.

May 5, 1937

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.
756 South Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

I have gotten all the manuscript back and got the plates all laid out and most of the plate numbers put in the text. I will be interviewing printers and plate makers now very shortly.

Did we make any stipulation with you as to how many copies you were to have free? Our custom is generally about 25. Also, have you any idea how many you could sell? Of course it would depend quite largely on the price. This was overlooked in the last Committee meeting and shortly they will take this matter up. I am advocating a price somewhere between $2.00 and $3.00, although it will cost us much more. If we ask more than this I am afraid we will not sell so very many. There will be 20-odd plates. The size will be about the size of our old American Journal of Numismatics. Also, have you heard anything more from the Mexican Government as to a Spanish edition?

The chief object of this letter at this time is to find out something about the coin of which I am enclosing a rubbing. The mint Is bothers me. I have never heard of such a mint. The coin is of good silver although the dies are a little rough. The edge is very good. Also what should we offer for the piece?

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

P.S. Since I dictated this morning my letter to you, I find the Publications Committee had a meeting yesterday and they handed me the preface, to which they have made amendations. As the changes are considerable, I

am sending this on for your approval. They also voted that my name should be used in collaboration with yours and a letter from the Committee, I understand, is going out today. This was none of my doings and came as a surprise to me.

HW ks

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

May 8, 1937

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator
The American Numismatic Society
Broadway between 155th and 156th Sts.
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Wood:

Your letter of the 5th reached me yesterday. The first point raised was the number of copies which I am to receive. There were 50 copies sent to me from my previous monograph and I naturally assumed that I was entitled to an equal number of this one. Do you think it can be managed? Not including four or five copies to be distributed among my immediate family, I have promised 35 copies to persons who have helped in the preparation of the work. The sale of this book should be larger than expected because it will open a field so far untouched. Many of the California Coin Club members have shown their desire to purchase copies but I am unable to state with any degree of certainty the number of copies that can be disposed of here.

The representatives of the Mexican government are more or less annoyed with me as I have been offering excuses of one sort or another for the reason that since I wrote you on August 25, 1936, I have not had a definite answer as to the permission sought.

The rubbing sent is interesting but I fear is not a regular issue of Mexico. If you look in the catalogue of the Peltzer Collection, #298, you will find a specimen with the following inscription: 8 Rs A.Do. 1840, O.M.C. The assayer's initials were of no help in determining the source of this sort of "mule." I would classify this piece as a curiosity with no numismatic value.

The preface prepared by the Publications Committee is substantially the same as I had written it; therefore, I subscribe to it. But in the question of your name appearing in collaboration with mine, the inclosed copy of a letter addressed to Mrs. Brett clearly states my feelings. Permit me to add now, as I have many times in the past, that without your keen intellect and your broad knowledge of the numismatic field, the work would have been greatly handicapped. It has not been my purpose to offend you and I can assure you that I hold nothing but admiration, respect and high esteem for you, and if this point had been brought up at the beginning of the revision, three years ago, it would have been settled satisfactorily to all concerned.

I trust that this difference of opinion will not in any way mar our friendship.

Yours sincerely,

A. F. Pradeau

AFP z
Incl.

May 11, 1937

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.,
756 S. Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

Your airmail letter just at hand.

I will put in your application for 50 copies. Presumably this is what you would get, but being different from the Numismatic Notes and Monographs, it is up to the Publications Committee to determine the number of copies.

I am sorry about the final decision of your request for printing the monograph in Spanish. This is partly my fault. The Committee held this up for months and then they told me to go ahead and report it to the Council for their permission, but not to do it uhtil I made my final report to ehe Council. I should have done this this month but have made note to report it next month.

Under separate cover I am sending you a plaster cast of that I^{S} peso. It look to me perfectly all right. The die on the eagle size is somewhat rough and shows around the first R signs of rust, but the piece does not look new or like a restrike. The reverse has just the same appearance as any other peso. The weight is a trifle light. It weighs 407.5 grains but I weighed up a number of specimens from other mints and and their weights vary considerable, that is, there is a variation of o 17 grains in different specimens. I think it is a case of looking up pretty thoroughly as it might be a rare piece. I do not think you can make a parallel with the A.D^{O} piece of 1840. I have known of other specimens. Gutag lists it in his book, #3174, and we have a specimen. One side has an absolutely proof surface and the other side just approaches a proof surface. This may have been a pattern or a special piece made for a special occasion or purpose.

Now for the other part of your letter. I take no exception whatever in your findings and conclusions. It was not my idea or even thought, and I

told the Committee that I would have nothing to do with offering the suggestion. Therefore you have not hurt my feelings in the least. I am keeping out of the matter. Therefore, if anything further comes up, do not quote me.

I would like to have your further conclusions on the I[S] piece after you see the cast.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

P.S. When the manuscript was returned to me, I think the title page, if there was one, got lost. However, I wish you would draw up a title page, giving the title and sub-title, as you want it, probably as we have made so many additions and have confined ourselves to only the Colonial and earlier periods, you might like to make a change from your original notations. If you have any titles or honorary degrees, stick them on to your name.

I forgot in my last letter to state this is what I had written concerning those hoe-shaped pieces on page 11:

> The pieces were placed in the urn in layers of four each, the handles pointing inwards, the cutting edges facing outwards, making the form of a cross or a cartwheel of four spokes.

If this meets with your approval, let me know. I think it is a little more clearly expressed than the way you put it.

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

May 15, 1937.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

Your letter of the 11th, was most welcome. Permit me to thank you for relieving my mind as to your feelings in the matter of the title page. I am grateful to you.

The plaster cast also arrived and I do not doubt its genuineness a bit, in fact I did not doubt it when I read about it in your letter, but I still say that it is not regular coinage. This is probably the work of a student engraver submitted before he could be qualified as full fledged engraver. The Assayer's initials I.M. (possibly J.M.) if belonging to one assayer or two individuals are found in the Mexico city mint up to 1832 and in Durango during 1850. There is also the possibility that as the dies were made with interchangeable dates and assayers initials, etc. an I was erroneously placed there instead of a Z, thus making this piece one of Zacatecas, where at the time the assayer's initials were O.M. - I have a piece, 8 reales of Culiacan in which the mint mark appears Gn. - So it is posible that such an error could have taken place. It could not have been for Alamos, as Alamos mint was not in existence at the time.

About the title page. The title given will depend on whether we are going to publish the subsequent work. If this is the case, then, we might call it "NUMISMATIC HISTORY OF MEXICO" ~~Vol. I~~ and as a subtitle we might add: FROM PRE-COLUMBIAN EPOCH TO 1821 or something like it.

As to my titles you may choose from the following: Bachelor of Science, Doctor of Dental Surgery; Member of the "Antonio Alzate" Academy of Sciences, of Mexico; formerly Assistant Professor and Lecturer of the University of Southern California, College of Dentistry (Pathology, Therapeutics, Materia Medica and Pharmacology); member of the National Honorary fraternity Omicron Kappa Upsilon.

Your corrected sentence for page 11 is fine. I shall incorporate it in my copy.

Sincerely yours,

A. F. Pradeau

NUMISMATIC STUDIES

I

THE NUMISMATIC HISTORY OF MEXICO

From the Pre-Columbian Epoch to 1821

By

Professor A. F. Pradeau
Member of the Antonio Alzate Academy of Sciences of Mexico

THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

New York
1937

6 x 9 page limit

5 1/2 x 8 1/2 limit

Sample pages for NUMISMATIC SOCIETY 3742

ESTIMATE

Sample Pages

Date June 23, 1937

SPECIFICATIONS FOR COINAGE OF MEXICO

SIZE: 7 5/8 x 11 50 inches. Full trim—~~head cut only—leave deckle—1/8 in. allowed for trim.~~

STOCK: 25 x 38 — 70 Dacian laid, or ? for text

x — for illustrations

x —

Uniform in general style with

COLLATION

Roman

i halftitle
ii blank
iii title
iv copyright
v acknowledgment
vi blank
vii contents
viii blank
ix illustration
x blank
xi introduction
xii

BINDING

Full cloth
Paper sides
Cloth backstrap
Leather
Slip case
Full paper drawn on paper cover printed in black
Stamping

JACKETS

Size
Stock
Ink

ILLUSTRATIONS

Line-blocks Collotype provided by
Photogravures Meriden 3/8's
Halftone-blocks
Color-blocks or plates
In text or inserts?
Type to run around?
Maps
Tip in
Fold around signatures

IMPOSITION

Impose as single—double 32's–16's–8's–4's–2's for
Impose for quad folding
With point holes
Margins: (after trimming)
Top 5 picas
Inside 6 picas

TYPOGRAPHY

Type Original old style 33 x 47
Type page (inc. running head and folio) ~~30~~ x ~~48~~ picas
Lines of text to page
Text in 12 / 14 pt.
Extracts in 10 / 12 pt.
Tables in 10 / 12 pt.
Heads in / pt.
With rules
Without rules
Boxed
Bibliography in / pt.
Appendices in / pt.
Side Heads in / pt.
Captions in / pt.
Footnotes in 8/ 10 pt.
Numbered consec. through section
Numbered consec. through chapter
Numbered consec. through book
Use reference marks
Placed
Index in 10/12 pt.
Set to picas (2 cols. to page)
Column rule?
Running heads in 12 pt. caps letterspaced
~~With rule~~
Without rule
Space between heading and text pts.

Folios
In running head
At foot of page. Yes — 12 pt with square brackets
Start Arabic page 1 with
Initial Letters 2 line
Half titles
Title on first page of text?
Flush with top of running head
points below top of running head

NUMBER OF PROOFS galley page

Chapters
Head sinkage picas
Heads in pt.
Sub Heads in pt.
Begin new page
Begin right-hand page
Separate by half title
Indentions—ordinary—close spacing

SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

May 20, 1937.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

Permit me to refer to page 122 of the monograph. Third paragraph. The thought has come to me that the inscription might be interpreted as beginning with the name of the king thus one would have:

Ferdinand 7th upon whom the American Congress has vested authority.
or Ferdinand 7th upon whom authority has been vested by the American Congress.
Fernando 7o. Depositante de la autoridad del Congreso Americano.

and thus the last " D " becomes a part of the inscription and not as we have it, very much in doubt.

The F-7 on the mantle naturally refer to Ferdinand and reading the marginal inscription immediately after we find the interpretation here given.

Would you like to add a few lines to the second paragraph of page 19? Where I say that work commenced . . . .

"under the 57th Viceroy of New Spain, Don Juan Acuña y Manrique, Marqués de Casa Fuerte, the 16th of April 1731 and was completed December 18, 1734 at a cost of $ 449,893 pesos."

The above dates vary with different authors, and if you think it advisable you could incorporate in a foot note the source of my information, as having been furnished by the royal accountant, thus:

"Noticia que el Real Contador D. Antonio de Campo Marín ministró a D. Diego de Parras. Alamán, Disertaciones, Vol. III - Apendice."

Please let me know if you care to make the changes here referred.

Cordially yours,

A. F. Pradeau

May 25, 1937

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.,
756 S. Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

Your letter just at hand. I note your changes and additions. I have not as yet studied them but a first reading leads me to think they should go in.

There has been two or three new developments since my last letter. I have got two or three new casts which I will photograph and try to substitute on the plates which are already made up but not given to the engravers. I am also holding up everything for a little while as I have just had access to all of Edgar H. Adams' notes on South American coins and he has one notebook on Mexican pieces. As you may know, he has made an especial study of South American numismatics. I glanced through these notes the other day and they are being sent up to us by express and should be here any day. Mr. Adams, by the way, had a stroke a few years ago and since then has been nearly helpless.

I am trying to get the Publications Committee together to pass on a few last things concerning your article. I find they have already made a ruling concerning the author's copies for the new, enlarged form, which is only 25. I have sent your letter to the Chairman of the Committee.

I think I said there would be 23 plates.

I have just received a catalogue from Glendining & Co. which disturbs me somewhat. In case you do not have it I am mailing it on to you and would like this returned as it is the only one of these catalogues we have. On plate 10, 373, 374, 375 and 376, are new Morelos pieces in gold. 373 is similar to one we mention but this is dated 1812. 374 is like one we have already mentioned in silver, but this is gold. The interesting thing about these is the counterstamp. SJNC or G. They read it C and you G, but this counterstamp is different than the one you illustrate. Unfortunately the counterstamp is extremely weak. The same counterstamp appears on both pieces. I wish you would write out the supplementary notes and information to incorporate in the article about these as well as 375 and 376. I mention the latter in two places. That is, in the general gold of Morelos and remark on it in connection with Oaxaca.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY
BROADWAY, AT 156TH ST.
NEW YORK

Mrs. Brett

NUMISMATIC HISTORY
OF Mexico
Pre-Columbian Epoch to 1821

May 27, 1937

MEMORANDUM TO:

Mr. Newell
Mr. Mabbott
Mr. Noe
Mr. Wood

NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATIONS, HELD MAY 26, 1937.

Pradeau's Mexican Coinage. Size of edition and price to be referred to the Staff, according to ruling of the Council. Mr. Wood will turn over the manuscript to the printer, about 100 pages plus 23 plates.

This book is to be numbered Volume 1 of Numismatic Studies. Volume 2 will be Mr. Newell's Seleucid Eastern Mints. Volume 3, Mr. Clapp's article on U.S. cents. Possibly Mr. Clapp may contribute to the cost.

Our Committee refers to the Council the question of announcing our new publication; suggests that the Council formulate an announcement to be sent to Wayte Raymond's Coin Journal and to the Numismatist, Numismatic Chronicle, the Numismatic Circular and elsewhere. Not necessary to get out a postcard to members, asking for their advance subscriptions. The Committee suggests that the Council consider issuing a slip announcing Pradeau's book.

Mr. Mabbott suggests that Mr. Wood write to the Berlin Numismatic Cabinet or send to Berlin a galley proof in order to check the dates. Material, however, if any, from Berlin, to go into an appendix.

The material Mr. Wood may find in the Edgar Adams' papers need not hold up the publication of the work because Mr. Mabbott feels there will surely be an appendix, where we can place it. Hence the Committee resolved that this work of Pradeau's be printed at once as No. 1 of the Numismatic Studies.

The Committee voted to write a letter to Pradeau stating the Committee's position on placing Wood's name on the title page as collaborator - we might suggest to Pradeau that Wood's name be used as collaborator on the first ~~pox~~ volume and possibly not on the second volume. We will not insist on it, however, but mention the very large contribution made by Wood, suggesting that his name on the title page would not detract from Pradeau's fame, and might even help sales.

The title of Pradeau's book to be NUMISMATIC HISTORY OF MEXICO, with sub-title [illegible] TO 1821. [illegible] Member the Antonio Alzate Academy of Sciences of Mexico.

[illegible] Epoch to 1821 OK

In the letter to Pradeau from the Committee we will state that the number of copies presented to the author is still under consideration. In many

publications of this sort only 10 might be allowed, but in his case a much more liberal allowance will surely be made.

NOTE FOR Mr. NOE: The Committee thinks that 35 copies for Pradeau is generous, but does not care to make this a point of dispute and therefore will leave it open for the moment. Meantime, the Committee feels that it can recommend in each case the number of copies to be allowed the author and submit this allowance to the author to the Council.

[illegible] the English is correct and if she catches any points that seem wrong, to mark it with a pencil and submit to Mr. Mabbott.

The preface for Pradeau's work will be revised, to give more credit to Mr. Wood, if his name does not appear as collaborator on the title page.

The letter to Pradeau will be set up by Wood and Mrs. Brett.

We agree with Mr. Noe to return to Mattingly the plates of his article.

The Lewis manuscript accepted.

The Forrer manuscript accepted but must be returned to Forrer for revision.

The Gonzales manuscript on Puerto Rico accepted. No change is necessary. Find out if the author had been notified that we had accepted it, and if not, accept formally; write now a letter that the manuscript is under favorable consideration.

The documents in Spanish should probably be reproduced in English translation.

Notes furnished by Noe on the status of the Numismatic Notes & Monographs: The following are definitely in hand, and all five could probably be brought out in 1937: Torry, early in June; Jerash, plates ready. Printing not begun. Trying to cut down costs a little; Hoard Bibliography. Half the text in proof. A long process reading it. Sometime in the summer.

Napthali Lewis - from a Hoard of Folles. Late Roman Hoard. Approved. Clean manuscript ready, except for chapter on the Chemical composition of the coins.

Forrer. Guatemala. Has this been formally accepted? [illegible]

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

May 29, 1937.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

Your news about Mr. Adams' notes were most welcome and I sincerely hope that you find something there that could be incorporated in the monograph.

Permit me to enlist your cooperation with the end in view of obtaining at least 40 copies of the book. I have reviewed the list of promised copies and it comes to 39, and I certainly would like to have at least one. Your efforts along this line will be greatly appreciated. May I inquire if it is to be cloth or paper bound, for if it is to be paper bound, it may be possible to have the printer prepare for me five cloth bound copies, for which I will gladly pay the additional cost.

The Glendining & Co. catalogue was received by me several days ago, and I too, set about to make the necessary changes. I spent nearly a whole night, trying to solve the problem created by the presence of the I.P.T. initials. There is absolutely nothing in the way of a historical event, legislative body, name of a leader, or name of a town, that could be linked to these initials. I am submitting for your consideration the enclosed supplements and changes.

If it is at all possible for you to read chapter X of Priestley's book, Jose de Galvez, Visitor General of New Spain, you will find from page 312 to 319 quite a bit of material, some of which could be used to advantage in the monograph.

If you do not care to make a separate heading for the America Morelos coins, as I have it in the enclosed sheets, we may incorporate the new information along with the old. If on the other hand, you approve of this change, please cross out the information pertaining to these coins given on page 112.

The Kingsborough paragraph is lost. I have devoted weeks of research to finding this particular item. The nearest I have come is what I am sending you now, and I believe it reads a little better than the one originally sent. Please let me hear from you.

I would like to call your attention to the fact that the insurgents spelled the word GUVERNATIVA as given. Modern Spanish is Gobernativa.

Very truly yours,

A. F. Pradeau

June 11, 1937

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.
756 Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

I have finished going through the Adams' material and have found next to nothing new. However, I did make these two discoveries:

In Schulman's Catalogue of Dec. 4, 1905, in the Collection of Lyman H. Low and J. N. Van Geldeß, Lot 288, he mentions and illustrates a piece of Morelos which I think is new. I have not checked this up further but I am sending you a description of it:

288 Juan Martin Morelos. 1812. Obsidionale de 8 Reales fr. a Huautia (Huatulco ou Guatulco) (MO)NEDA PROVI . CONALPS . ES . A . Arc avec fleche dessous S U D. Rev. FABRICA EN . HUAUTIA dans le champ - 8 . R - 1812. Inedite. Ae. b.c. Fort rare.
Voir la reproduction.

I trust you have this catalogue and can refer to it.

In Schulman's Sale for June 15, 1910, Collection of Ciscar y Montolin, Lot 434, is a 4 reales piece which is illustrated, dated 1597. I am enclosing a photograph of these. Also, a photograph of an 8 reales piece of the same date. At first I thought I would include them, but on studying the pieces out, I am of the opinion they are not Mexican but Spanish as the workmanship does not look Mexican, but certainly does look like some of the poorer, cruder pieces made in Spain at the time. You compare pieces in El Duro. Also the Portuguese arms, if that is what it is, on the 8 reales, would make it fit nearer to Spain than Mexico. They both have the assayers' initial G on them. I am, however, laying this before you for your opinion. Please return photographs.

There is a meeting today of the Council and I have laid your letter concerning printing in Spanish before them. I trust they have a quorum. The last time they did not.

Your letter of May 29th at hand. I do not know as yet what the Committee has decided upon.

I do not know when I can get a chance to look at Priestley's book as I am busy every night from the time I reach the office until about midnight. I may try to get it out and take it down to the country over some Sunday.

I have not had a chance yet to fit your latest additions into the manuscript as I have been keeping busy going through Adams' notes. I think I said I added a few dates and denominations to the earlier silver coins and added a few words to the Charles and Johanna pieces.

Don't bother any more about the Kingsborough paragraph. It was a suggestion made by one of the Committee.

Will keep you informed as things progress. I have had an estimate from the plate maker on the cuts but am adding one or two better specimens from some of Adams' photographs.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

Pondean

on sheet 108 x 109 under
gold coinage you say the
only reference to gold coinage
was what Lizardi the news
paper man said. What
about the gold coins found
in the cave near Tixtla 2 Parmenter
on p. 106. If these 29 coins
were made by Morelos why
not quote your source and
refer to these on p 108 x 109
as an other contemporary
mention of gold coin. We
mention these coins on page 110
but it loses its force here.

P. 108-9

In the Wendenning & Co. London, sale of June 16, 17 1927 Lot 272 a similar piece is described but dated 1812. This is ~~counterstamped~~ impressed with the S.J.N.G. [illegible] counterstamp, see p.

Change page 133

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

June 14, 1937.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

In reply to your letter of the 11th, which has just arrived, permit me to say, first that I do not have the Schulman's catalogue of Dec. 4, 1905 but from the description of the piece, I judge, that it is a fake. Beginning with the name of Morelos, which is wrong; then the name of the town where this coin was presumably made HUAUTLA. To my recollection there is no such a town in Mexico, which I shall verify to-night, but there is CUAUTLA, and if you consult the notes I sent you on the three volume work entitled "Colección de documentos inéditos y poco conocidos" Morelos, 1927 - page 1, second and third paragraphs, you will find that the declarations of the prisoners taken clearly show that there was no mint there. Besides you have in extract all there is to the history of Morelos, and you will notice that I took special pains to name each town occupied by Morelos from the beginning of the insurrection to its end, and there is not another name that even resembles the one appearing on the coin. The monogram as outlined by you does not tally with the numerous others to be had. I would appreciate your sending me the illustration for further study. The notes on Morelos, during the siege of Cuautla are found on page 103 of your copy of the monograph.

The illustrations included, and which I am now returning, are not Mexican of for the Mexico City mint. They are Spanish coins and the legend clearly demonstrates this in that it reads HISPANIARUM REX and not Hispaniarum et Indiarum Rex as prescribed by the coining laws (third paragraph p.28 monograph) and strictly adhered to during the whole of the colonial period.

Many thanks for keeping me informed about the progress made towards the publication of the monograph. I appreciate the courtesy very much. Please let me know if you prefer to have appear in the monograph the inserts sent or you have decided to discard the new material sent, chiefly those in reference to Kingborough's statements. Somehow I seem to favor the wording of the second draft, it is more to point and expresses clearly and in less awkward manner what we intended to say.

Did you decide upon illustrating some of the gold eagles of the pre-colonial epoch? What do you think about making an index for the first volume? It would certainly facilitate finding any desired information without going to the trouble of reading the whole book and to some extent memorizing it. I would gladly under take the work.

Now, that you tell me how busy you are, and that you already have an assistant, let me confide to you of a secret desire entertained by me at the time you lost you co-worker: I very earnestly thought of applying for the position as I wanted to be near persons whom I admire and at the same time enjoying my hobby. I work about 18 to 20 hours a day, so it does not scare me. However, take good care of yourself, remember that not so long ago you were on the sick list, and you would not like to be there again.

Yours sincerely,

A. F. Pradeau

Gold coins.

Gold coins of one escudo and half escudo size were auctioned off in London by Glendining & Co. items 395 and 396. June 16-17. 1937. Both pieces, which appear to be cast, have on one side a rampant lion facing left and around the margin the inscription AMERICA MORELOS ...1813... To the left of the lion the value appears as 1 or ½; on the right of the lion the letter R for reales. The 1-R coin has the borders reeded. The reverses have the usual bow and arrow; below it .FD.; and the whole surrounded by a closed wreath.

Silver coins.

Cast silver pieces of two, one, and half reales denomination, with the rampant lion in the center of the field and the AMERICA MORELOS inscription around the margin of 1812 and 1814 were sold by Lee, February 20, 1899. The other side of all of these has an arrow in a drawn bow, and the word .FD. below it. Both sides have reeded borders.

Copper coins.

Half real pieces of the America Morelos type have been seen in copper. All bear the 1813 date and are similar to the silver pieces of like denomination except that the bow and arrow appears enclosed within a continuous wreath.

June 17, 1937

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Bldg.
756 Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

I am answering more in detail your several letters.

The Schulman catalogue that has the Morelos coin is in a bound volume. I am having it looked up to see if we have an unbound copy among our duplicates and if so, will send it on to you so that you can study the illustration.

I am glad you set me right on the two early dated coins of which I sent photographs on. I was rather dumb in not catching that they did not have Indiarum on them. I had an instinctive feeling they could not be Mexican.

Although the committee has apparently come to no decision as yet on the number of things to be granted you, and one or two other things, I am nevertheless having one or two printers figure on the job so that when they do make a decision, I can start in printing immediately, unless something else unforeseen comes up.

I do not know as yet the decision of the Council as to the Spanish edition but you should get a letter shortly from either Mr. Newell or Mr. Noe, if you have not already gotten a letter.

I have put in all of the notes and additions you have sent on. I have re-written the America - Morelos and will make it a separate item and have cut out the two or three references I made about these coins in other places. As for the gold eagles of the Pre-Colonial period, I don't see how I can get in an illustration of these, as my illustrations are now fixed and the scraper pieces will be on the frontis-piece and all the rest of the plates - 22 of them, will be at the end.

I think an index would be most useful and would be glad to have you do it as you read the final page proof. I was planning to make an

index of the plates showing the pages on which each coin was described. Both of these would be most helpful. This latter I will do.

I appreciate your last remarks about desiring to be a co-worker here. We had a number of applications - one or two from the Coast, but we did not feel that we even wanted to interview anyone so far off as many find they do not like to live in New York after they get here.

I am very much pleased with my new assistant. The chief thing I am up against today is not the amount of work but the jumping around from one thing to another. I never know what the next hour will bring forth. We have just had given us a most remarkable collection of about 3500 medieval Italian coins. It is said the owner spent about $75,000. on these. This collection alone is going to keep us busy for some time to come.

In looking over the Morelos part on sheet 108 x 109 under gold coinage, you say the only reference to gold coinage was what Lizardi, the newspaper man, said. Now what about the gold coins found in the cave near Tixtla, the 2nd paragraph on page 106? If these 29 coins were made by Morelos, why not quote your source and mention the gold coins on page 108 as another contemporary mention of gold coins. It would help bolster up the fact Morelos did make some gold pieces. We do mention this fact on page 110 but it has not the potency on that page it would have on the page before. Think this over.

I have said to the committee about all I can about the copies for you. I am much afraid that you will not get the 50 copies. I do not see the Chairman often but will tackle her again shortly.

I have made a note that you would like to have 5 cloth bound copies;as we probably will have one or two bound for ourselves, I am including it in the order.

I forget whether I wrote you that I have followed your instructions about the new interpretation of the inscription on page 122. I think you have now hit upon the right reading of this. I have also added what you said on page 19.

As we intend to copyright the book, I would like to find out now whether or not you are an American citizen as this has to go in on the copyright forms.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

6/17/37

Memorandum

To Mr. Noe

From Mr. Wood

When you have bound copies of Numismatic Studies I made up, will you please arrange to include 5 copies, bound in cloth, for Dr. Pradeau?

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

June 17, 1937.

My dear Mr. Wood:

As promised in my letter of the 14th I have carried considerable research on the coin mentioned in your second paragraph. There are two towns in the State of Hidalgo; 1 in the State of Guerrero, and 4 in the State of Oaxaca carrying the name of HUAUTLA and as this name closely resembles the one given in your letter (Huautla) I thought I would communicate with you. By a process of elimination, I have selected the town of Huautla in the municipality of Tlaquiltenango, county of Jujutla, State of Morelia, as the most plausible one, as it is a mining center producing large quantities of silver and galena (sulphide of lead) and only 36 miles from Cuautla, where Morelos and his forces were bottled up for several months. All the other towns are agricultural centers, and excepting the one in the State of Hidalgo which had 10,000 inhabitants, were of small population. If the coin is real, it is possible, that although it differs from the regular Morelos coinage, and that Morelos was never there, that it was made by some one of his chieftains on whom Morelos had delegated powers to coin money. To my knowledge this is the only instance in the whole of the war of independence period in which the inscription Fabrica en (fabricated or manufactured in) appears. As in other occasions, I am of the opinion of mentioning the specimen and offering our deductions to prevent unjust criticism. We might state in whose collection it is now found, and perhaps, some one with more knowledge of that particular coin will come forth and tell us something about it. None of the history books consulted throws any light on this particular subject.

The fact that the monogram differs somewhat of the accepted Morelos coinage is or should be of considerable weight in our deductions. The type or style of the rest of the coin as well as the appearance of the coin, whether cast or struck and if the weight is available, may be of help in determining whether or not this coin is a fraud.

Very truly yours,

A. F. Pradeau

Linweave Tech Law

76
16
14
14
17
27
11
13
17
13
26
17
11
23
14
27
12
17
6
311

Cloth 6 x 8
on paper 8 x 11

32.00

311
out of 434
illustrations

THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY
BROADWAY, BETWEEN 155TH AND 156TH STREETS
NEW YORK

SPECIFICATIONS ON "COINAGE OF MEXICO"

No. Pages:	136*
Edition:	300 plus an additional 50
Size:	8 x 11
Type Page;	33x49 30 x 49
Type:	Original Old Style
T	Text: In 12/14; Extracts: 10/12; Index in 8/10 two column.
Paper:	We would suggest Linweave Text Laid, 35x45-133R which comes in the correct size.
Binding:	Sewed book, with 3 8's of illustrations at the end and one tipped frontis (quotation will vary if the illustrations come in another form).
Illustrations:	To be supplied by you.
Cover:	Printed in one color ink on front and spine.
Proofs:	Read five times.
Author's Alterations:	At $1.50 per hour.

*We estimate that the book will make approximately 136 pages including the 40 missing manuscript pages, and including also an eight page, two column index.

8 x 11

Page 7½ x 10 Edition 300

Type page 20 x 48 picas

Type page 5½ wide by 7¾ 33 x 49 picas

12 on 14 pt type.

Paper Dacier Bond.

70 lbs.

THE MERIDEN GRAVURE COMPANY

QUOTATION

June 1, 1937

Mr. Sydney Noe
American Numismatic Society
New York City

COIN PLATES

Number of plates -- 23
Page size -- max. 8½ x 11½
Work size -- " 7 x 9
Paper -- 80 lb. Natural Scientific
Ink -- Black
Copy -- Mounted photos of coins with numbers under each.
Type -- Plate number and 1 - 2 line legend per page.
Arrangement of plate --

A. As 23 single tips one side

B. As 1 single tip frontispiece and 22 plates printed as Pages 2 and 3 of a four-page folder.

C. As one single tip frontispiece one side and one single tip backed up and five four-page folders

Either arrangement will cost the same price.

Edition -- 200

Price -- $11.60 per plate Total $266.80

PBA

PBA:MC

FULL-TONE
TRADE MARK

Contract terms on reverse side

Contract Terms

PRICES: Terms 2% 10, net 30 days. All prices F.O.B. Meriden, unless otherwise agreed. These prices are subject to change without notice and are for immediate acceptance unless otherwise stated.

OVER-RUN: In accordance with trade custom, it is agreed that an over-run or shortage, not to exceed 10%, to be billed pro rata, shall constitute a true delivery.

SPECIFICATIONS: It is understood that specifications herewith are satisfactory to you, unless designated to the contrary upon acceptance of this proposal.

ART WORK AND LAYOUT TIME: When requested, to be furnished extra at customer's expense on an hourly basis at a rate of $3.00 per hour.

CHANGES: Should alterations or changes be made at your request or because of conditions unknown at this time, the price shall be changed to correspond to the change in cost to us.

CANCELLATIONS: Orders entered upon our books cannot be countermanded, except with our consent and on terms that will indemnify us against all loss.

ERRORS: Stenographic or clerical errors are subject to correction.

DELIVERY: It is agreed that we are not liable for delays occasioned by strikes, fires or other causes beyond our reasonable control, nor for any direct or indirect damages arising from such delays.

MERCHANDISE, TYPE OR ORIGINALS: We are not to be held liable for the loss or mutilation of original, originals, type, plates or merchandise beyond the sum of $25.00 total, unless statement in writing is received, giving coverage required.

June 22, 1937

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.,
756 S. Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

I have lokted an unbound copy of Schulman's catalogue showing the cut of the piece on Plate 1. From this you can probably work better than from the description I gave you.

The monogram which I drew I copied without thought from the printed description but the monogram is the actual Morelos counterstamp. As far as I can see, it looks perfectly genuine and what is more, has every appearance of being struck and not cast. In fact, one side distinctly shows double striking. When through with the catlogue please return.

Your letter of June 17th at hand and I can see where you have put in a lot of time on this piece. I think it is worth it as it stbikes me the idea is really important. How this got overlooked is beyond me. Cortainly it created no stir at the time and who has it today I cannot imagine.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

June 23, 1937.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
American Numismatic Society,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

Permit me to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 17th and to refer to three points, which to my way of thinking have not been made clear.

FIRST - The Publication Committee has not rendered a decision as to the number of copies to be granted to me.

SECOND- No decision has been reached as to granting to me the Spanish rights of the 1934 and this monograph.

THIRD - The question of authorship discussed with Mrs. Brett, the Chairman of the Publications Committee, has remained unanswered.

Don't you think that these matters should be ironed out before obtaining the desired copyright? It seems to me that my requests are not at all exorbitant, particularly in view of the amount of labor and expense incurred and borne by me entirely.

Therefore, while perfectly willing to donate to the Society this work, I must insist that immediate consideration be given to my requests, and unless the Society agrees to them I shall be obliged to withdraw my permission to have the monograph published.

I dislike intensely to have differences in my dealings with others and I trust that you personally and the Society collectivelly, will not consider me unreasonable or militant.

Respectfully yours,

A. F. Pradeau

June 25, 1937

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.
756 S. Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

Your letter of the 22rd at hand and armed with this letter, I got both Mr. Newell and Mrs. Brett from the country but could not get them on the same day. At the same time you get this you will get a letter from Mrs. Brett as Chairman of the Committee.

The hitch has been that one member of the Committee has absolutely held out that my name should be in conjunction with yours. The rest thought so also but as I said, one was adamant. I came into the matter at the last moment and suggested a compromise that I trust will be agreeable to you. As far as I can see, it was the only way out of the matter.

As for the number of copies, I will try to get what you want, and I know I can get up to 35 anyway, but leave that to me.

I do not know whether Mr. Newell has written you of the action of the Council. They left that for his decision, and I understand that that will be granted. Right now he is a rather hard person to get hold of and to pin down as he is here and there. Up to now I have refrained from mixing into the deliberations of the Committee.

As it is about closing time I will stop here.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

COPY

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Building
756 South Broadway
Los Angeles, Cal.

June 28, 1937

Mrs. Agnes B. Brett, Chairman,
Publications Committee
American Numismatic Society
New York City.

My dear Mrs. Brett:

Your renewed offer as expressed in your letter of the 25th has b received careful consideration and again I must decline to accept. It is regrettable that at the end of the trail, we, your Society and I, should have come to disagreement, but under the circumstances I shall insist that Mr. Wood be given full credit in the preface; that my name alone appear on the title page; that 50 copies be granted to me; and that I retain the Spanish rights for this and the 1934 monographs. To these points I must add that the work be published within three months.

The question of the 50 copies needs some elucidation. Early in my researches it became necessary to enlist the help of friends and classmates now prominent in Mexican political life, of whom not one is interested in numismatics. Not being able to remunerate them in dollars and cents I offered them a copy of the work when published, and as they are not interested in our hobby their having a copy will not detract from the possible sale of the book.

As a point of information allow me to state that not placing any definite value to my labors I have spe t over $3500.00 in the compilation and preparation of the monograph under discussion. Included in this expenditure is the material for the period 1821 to date, which I still hold and is now ready to be edited. This last contribution I am perfectly willing to donate to your Society subject to the same stipulations as mentioned for volume one, except the time of publication which I expect to be set by you and agreed upon by us.

Should the above conditions fail to meet with your approval, I wo d appreciate the courtesy of a prompt reply.

Please accept my most sincere thanks for the kindness and cooperation with which my efforts have been received by your Society.

Cordially yours,

SIGNED A. F. PRADEAU

VAndike 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

June 28, 1937.

My dear Mr. Wood:

Your very nice letter of the 25th. reached me this morning and I am truly sorry that I cannot accept the proposed compromise. My reasons were clearly expressed in my letter to Mrs. Brett of May 8th, and still more so in the letter mailed to-day, a copy of which I am enclosing.

Please understand that I am not trying to belittle your valuable help, but in my donating the result of my extensive labors and costly material I thought that we were mutually benefiting each other.

The last part of the third paragraph of my letter to Mrs. Brett refers to the material comprising the period from 1821 to date. Please do not interpret my meaning as being threatening. It is not intended to be so. Only that I wished it understood that we were not going to have any dispute over the balance of the work, which by the way is quite voluminous and you may want to divide into two volumes.

Whatever happens please understand that my respect and admiration for you will not be lessened,

A. F. Pradeau

June 29, 1957

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.,
756 Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

In the Glendining Sale of June 16th, which we have been discussing, I put in a bid on No. 374, which was the gold Oaxaca piece. This item came back as withdrawn, coin false. Presumably number 373 was also withdrawn, but they only mentioned the piece I bid on. By the same token 375, 376 may also have been withdrawn.

We now have a problem on our hands. Whether the English call this coin false because the pieces were cast and they knew nothing about them, or whether they had other information as to their falsity. I do not know.

I bid on the piece as the counterstamps looked perfectly genuine. They appear to have been stamped in and not cast as were the coins. However, I have been a little mystified about this as they were so likely pressed in. The IPT die certainly seems rather shallow. The Morelos stamp is really much more likely stamped in than usual, though I could see nothing out of the way with it.

The fact remains that these pieces have gone on record as being false. Would it not be just as well to take out any mention we have made about these four pieces? If we left them in, anybody, realizing that these were withdrawn, might say that all the gold pieces we mention are false also. Of course you and I both know that all of the gold pieces we mention might possibly be fakes.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

Westport Point, Mass.
July 1, 1937

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.,
756 S. Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

Your air-mail letter reaches me just as I am leaving town for the summer. I am sorry that the Committee on Publications will not meet again until the Fall, and as nothing further can be done about the matter of publication under the conditions y u have laid down, you have the privilege of withdrawing your manuscript if you so desire.

This is a regrettable situation and if you should change your mind about the points at issue, we will go on with the publication now, provided you let us know soon so that Mr. Wood may finish the editing and hand the manuscript to the printer in a week or so. Moreover, if you do not decide until the Fall, there will be the risk that the funds set aside for your publication may be expended in some other manuscript awaiting publication.

Cordially yours,

(Mrs. Agnes Baldwin Brett)
Chairman, Publication Committee

ABB ks

Westport Point, Mass.
July 1, 1937

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.,
756 S. Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

Your air-mail letter reaches me just as I am leaving for the summer. I am sorry that the Committee on Publications cannot meet again until the Fall as they are all away. As nothing further can be done about the matter of publication under the conditions you have laid down, you are now free to withdraw the right of publication by this Society. This is to be regretted as your monograph should certainly be published in English. If, however, you wish to have the Committee consider this matter in the fall, you have the privilege of doing so. This contingency, however, may arise: the funds now available for printing this manuscript may be allocated to something else. If you should decide to abide by the terms of our letter of June 28th and can let Mr. Wood know without undue delay, your article can be put in the hands of the printer at once.

Very sincerely,

(Mrs. Agnes Baldwin Brett)
CHAIRMAN, Publication Committee

ABB ks

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

July 3, 1937.

Mr. Howland Wood, Curator,
American Numismatic Society,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

It grieves me to have to notify you that following the instructions received from Mrs. Brett, dated July 1st. I withdraw my permission to have your Society publish the monograph on The Numismatic History of Mexico.

Next Tuesday I shall interview a book printer and if I am able to arrange satisfactory terms with him, I shall proceed with the printing of the book myself, and you may rest assured that I shall give you all the credit possible for your continued cooperation and timely suggestions.

Before I close, may I ask you if you care to let me know the estimate given by the engraver that was going to make the half tone cuts for you? And if you have the plates ready for the engraver would you like to have me use them? If the price is not prohibitive I would like to have the firm that does the work for you continue the work as prepared by you, and thus carry out your original ideas. One thing I would like to suggest and that is, the plate depicting the hoe money, could be left out as it has been published frequently and every one knows about them, and have it supplanted by an engraving of the gold eagles of Moctezuma, of which we speak but few people has seen. I am enclosing an air mail stamp for your reply.

A day or two ago I sent you the Schulman catalogue which you so kindly sent to me. The inscription on one side seems to read: MONEDA PROVICONAL.P.S. Fo. VII - On the other side the i in FABRICA is dotted while in the word HUAUTIA it is not, which makes me suppose it was intended as an L, thus, my assumption that this word should be HUAUTLA would be correct. The letters P.S. before Fo.VII would indicate primus supremus which could be translated "Most Supreme Ferdinand" -

The last two or three letters from you have brought out quite a number of points which have remained unanswered. Would you like to have me take each one up with you, just as if you were going to publish the manuscript? I would be glad to do so. In fact, I feel so grateful to you that I would gladly send you any corrections or insertions that I may make to my copy of the ms. and you may add it to your copy.

May I hope that our friendship be not marred by recent happenings?

Cordially yours,

A. F. Pradeau

E. L. HILDRETH
PRESIDENT AND TREASURER

E · L · HILDRETH & COMPANY
INCORPORATED
Printers
BRATTLEBORO · VERMONT

NEW YORK OFFICE:
285 MADISON AVENUE · TELEPHONE LEXINGTON 2-2450

July 6, 1937.

Mr. Howland Wood,
The American Numismatic Society
Broadway at 156th Street,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Wood:

We are very glad to quote you a price of $789.00 for 300 copies of your proposed manuscript COINAGE OF MEXICO, and of $30.00 for an additional fifty copies printed at the same time.

We are enclosing sample sheets to show you the type that we would suggest using, and the general format.

Specifications for the manuscript are attached herewith, and we have based our quotation on them. We have included the cost of the Dacian Laid, 70 lb. in this quotation, but we would like to call your attention to the fact that the size paper which we need is not made in Dacian, and cannot be made in the amount needed. The quotation, therefore, will vary if we use Dacian. We would like to suggest, however, a paper called Linweave Text Laid, which is very similar to Dacian and which does come in the right size.

Would it be possible to have the manuscript retyped? We cannot set from the copy as it is, and our quotation is based on a cleaner manuscript. We can arrange to have this done for you at a cost of 15¢ a page, should you care to have us.

Sincerely yours,

Priscilla Crane

Priscilla Crane

cut off 3 ems i.e. 30 ems wide & runs 43 cents a page

July 7, 1937

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.,
756 Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

On my return from a four days' trip I find your letter on my desk, together with a copy of Mrs. Brett's last letter to you and other inter-office notes. Although I had an inkling of what was happening before I left, I am only now just conversant with everything. As far as I can fathom, the committee had no alternative to make any changes whatsoever after what they said in their letter of the 25th, so the situation had to be as it now is. You will note, however, that you can bring the matter up in the fall unless in the meantime you wish to abide by their decision.

The other two questions, which probably now do not matter and one of which was not taken up by Mrs. Brett is in this instance you can have 50 copies. Also, Mr. Newell, if he has not, should have written you that you could have both articles printed in Spanish. He is away in the country and I may not see him for weeks, but I have left word that if he has not written, please to do so. I am most regretful that things have come to the pass that they have.

Our engraver figured on making gelatine plates, not half tones, which on a small edition are cheaper than half tones and on any size edition are far better than half tones. We always have used these in our monographs. There is no screen to bother you and they can be printed on better and more enduring paper. The price given was at the rate of $11.60 per plate, or $266. for 23 plates on an edition of 200 copies. We could have them printed on both sides of the paper or on one side only. The printer's figures for an edition of 300 copies would be in the neighborhood of $725 ff the manuscript was re-written.

I am enclosing a set-up of a sample page. This page, however, is 33 picas wide. It should be but 30 picas wide. As shown here, to set the three more picas would cost at the rate of 43¢ per page more. Therefore if you have it printed in any large size, do not have it exceed 30 picas.

The type herewith shown is 12 on 14 with the tables 10 on 12 pt.; notes and index, 8 on 10 pt.

You will note that I have the figures on 300 for the printing and for 200 for the cuts as we had not yet determined the edition.

I have the plates all ready for the engraver. The actual size these plates would be is 6 x 8, not counting the running headings and the captions underneath.

As far as I am conserned, I would be glad to have you use the plates as I have made them up but I suppose I should have to get permission first. If everything goes right, would you want me to send the plates on to you or have the work attended to East? However, I really think you should see the plates and know just what is on them.

The printer that we had quote is not the cheapest printer that we use and I was having another printer figure on this but on receipt of the news from Mrs. Brett, have called him off.

Very truly yours,

Curator

hw ks
encl.

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

July 12, 1937.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

Many thanks for your willingness to ask for permission for the use of the plates that you have prepared and which I would like to use for several reasons but chiefly because you have prepared them and I would like to follow your general scheme. This is my second venture on having anything printed but the first was so small compared with this work that the experience gained is practically nil. On the other hand you have had more experience and from the amount of transposition and detail done by you in the monograph, I can see that if I do not wish to make a failure of it, I better follow your footsteps. So,please, solicit permission for me to use them, and as suggested by you, kindly send them to me by regular postage, as I am afraid of an aerial accident. If you allow me, I will be glad to pay for the postage on this and any future correspondence we may have, as I feel that I have imposed enough, and in this manner I shall feel free to request that you reply my queries by Air Mail, thus saving a few days. And if you do obtain permission would you mind if I have some one here give me an estimate on the work?

Should I proceed with the printing, may I present to you and to Mr. Noe with a copy each? No doubt the Society would like to have one or two copies which I will gladly send also.

The printer was here a few minutes ago and from the estimates that he made, after studying the work for a week, it may be possible to better the New York price by about 40 % - This man,however, was figuring the size of the page as 6 x 9. He is now going to give me an estimate on the size selected by you. He has promised that by to-morrow. Your figures were quite helpful and I did'nt appear so much of a green horn. Tomorrow afternoon I am going to interview another printer and before I make a decision I will have to wait until I hear from you about the plates. In the mean time I am working on the index. He has informed me that it will take all of two months to get this work out.

My very best wishes to you,

A F Pradeau

July 15, 1937

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Bldg.
756 Broadway
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

Your letter of July 12th ~~had~~hand. I have delayed a couple of days in answering it as I had to talk the matter over with Mr. Newell, our President. At first, Mr. Newell was opposed to sending the photographs as we had been to considerable expense. After thinking it over, however, he agreed to put the matter into my hands and finally said, ~~sand~~ them on, except that we should bill you for the work done. This, however, is left also in my hands. Without going into every instance we have photographed, I find that $32. at least has been charged up to the manuscript for photography and if you care to reimburse us for this, it would be accepted. There are over 434 illustrations on the plates, that is, obverse and reverse count as 2. Of these we have photographed or re-photographed 311 of these besides many photographs we did not use. As these photographs are mounted on heavy board, I may send them by express, whichever way is the cheaper.

Each coin has a printed number under it and they should have a running head at the top as well as the plate number, and the title at the bottom of each plate, explaining what is on it. These titles I have written on. These plates measure 6 x 8 to go on paper 8 x 11; therefore if you are to use these plates your book should be at least 8 x 11.

Here is one thing to remember, that the plates would lose most of their value if they are poorly made and poorly printed. Most printers do not know how to print half tones decently so that they look grey, flat and indistinct. Take Gaza's work on the Revolutionary coinage. The plates are pretty nearly valueless. These were so poor in the first edition that he made a second edition, which was not much better. You are familiar with our kind of plates. We do not use the half tone, but the gelatine process.

Now for the printing. The printer figured on about 136 pages, the size and approximate style of type that I sent you. I have found out from another printer that if set in monotype it could be 33 picas wide. If set in linotype it should not exceed 30 picas.

The paper to be used is worthy of consideration. Poor paper will help make a poor job as quickly as anything. We were figuring on Linweave Text Laid, as this comes in the proper size for a 8 x 11 page.

A good thing to remember is that the lowest printer is seldom the best; that if you are going to get out the book, you should have it have as good appearance as possible. Another thing to remember is, that although they may quote you a price, you can figure on another 25% or more additional for changes, author's corrections, additions, etc.

Another thing you should do is to put in the text the plate and number of every coin illustrated. Also, it would be well to have a table of the cuts, referring where each can be found in the text. I have done this with our copy and the whole thing has been read over twice for English, and a great many changes have been made. I have also made a great many slight changes that I may not have written to you about. I have also added a number of new dates that I have found from time to time.

If you really wish to get out the best work possible, I should send you the manuscript. If you wish me to do so, let me know.

Another thing has just occurred to me. Have you any facilities for marketing the book? A number could be sold in Europe if rightly advertised - in fact, I think more could be sold in Europe than in this country. I don't know the size of the edition you are contemplating. It is guesswork any way. You do not want to be left with too many on your hands and again you do not want too few.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

July 17, 1937.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

Your letter of the 15th has just been received and I make haste to answer it, because the numerous points that you bring up must be solved satisfactorily before I contract for the publication of the monograph. I am enclosing personal check for $ 32.00, to reimburse the Society for the photographic charges on the manuscript. This absolutely fair and I wish you to know that I appreciate your efforts in my behalf.

To show you how I feel about the whole matter I am enclosing a carbon of the preface as I have prepared it. Please feel free to express your opinion as openly as you wish, and whatever you say will be taken not only confidentially but cheerfully.

Your offer to send back the copy of the ms. that you now have is indeed timely. I did not want to imply that I did not have confidence in you, and at first, I did not realize that I only have one copy, and the printer will take it. You are most kind, and if you send me the duplicate manuscript I will appreciate it very much, with this understanding, that if I am unable to have it printed, you shall get it back. Please do not forget the tables of coinage, which if you remember are photostatic prints.

I have made notes of all the good points conveyed in your last two letters, and before I proceed I shall have the printer make me one plate and a couple pages of the ms. to see if they meet with the standard of your publications. If I have time, that is, if the printer allows me sufficient time, I will be glad to send them on to you for your inspection and comments. It may be possible to have two copies run of these samples, and in that case there will not be a question of time. I hope I am not being too bothersome.

About the facilities of marketing the book. I have none. If you feel inclined to do so, please offer as many suggestions as you wish. I am figuring on having 500 copies made, 200 of which will be cloth bound, which I have tentatively priced at $ 6.00 each; and 300 paper bound at $ 5.00 each. The printer has given me the following quotations: 144 pages of type; 25 plates; white egg-shell for the type(No.60); 70 white coated for plates; 65 sub. hammermill brush for paper covers; black ink; all books sewed; type 33 picas of 12 pt. solid; tables in 10 pt; notes in 8 pt. $ 840.00 additional 16 pages of 60 white egg shell stock set at 12 pt. type $ 54.00 - What do you think?

Many thanks and best regards,

A. F. Pradeau

July 20, 1937

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.
756 S. Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

Your letter of July 17th at hand and many thanks on behalf of the Society for the check. The preface is all right. I have read it through a couple of times and have made one suggestion. Where you state 'whose lot it was to review the manuscript', I have added, in case you use the plates, 'and prepared the plates'. On consideration I think I would omit the last sentence. As you are repeating somewhat, this consequently makes it a weak ending. However, do as you wish.

I am sending back the copy by express either today or tomorrow. There were one or two things I wanted to look over and straighten out if I could. You will note in this that I have put in the text all reference to the plates; also have added a number of dates and the whole thing, except the last ten pages, has been gone over for English, the first half by an English Professor at Hunter College and the second half by a young lady pretty good at this work. This we do with every article submitted to us. Therefore you had better go through out copy pretty carefully and see what you want to use. Many pages should be typewritten, or the printer will probably kick.

I think I have returned everything of your original manuscript that will be of value to you. I think from the specifications you have written that your printer should produce good results. I would be very glad to see any of the samples you want to submit. I will be away from the 22nd to the 28th but then you probably would not be sending me anything during that time. Also, if you have the cuts made out your way, I would like to see proofs of these as I might be able to give you good advice. Heliotype cuts that we proposed to have made would be made by the Meriden Gravure Co., Meriden, Conn. If you want them made this way you would have to take up the matter directly with them.

Now for marketing the book. My first suggestion is do not give too many away, especially to those that would be inclined to buy the book. Of course you would have to give copies to those that have helped you and I could see where you would have to give copies to many officials in Mexico.

If I were you, I would write Wayte Raymond and see if he could or would handle the book for this country and write Spink if they would handle it for foreign countries. You presumably could make your arrangements for selling it in Mexico. With these you would have to give a fairly liberal discount. You might sound them out as to how much they would want. I do not believe just an ad in the Numismatist would bring you in many returns.

I think you will have difficulty in getting rid of 500 copies, and I feel you have rather a large proportion of cloth copies. However, I am not prepared to pass on this. I do not think the difference between cloth and paper is enough. You state $6.00 and $5.00 each. I think you should charge $7.00 or $7.50 and $5.00.

If you care to have the Society's library have two copies and one for myself, it would be very nice. Mr. Noe hasnotinterested in Mexican things and has had nothing to do with it.

If I think of anything else, I will drop you a line.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

P R E F A C E

In the compilation of this work all available material was used and when ever possible the source has been acknowledged. Special expression of thanks is due to Mrs. Adelaide Gillis Mc Cormick, for permitting access to her wonderful collection and for valuable suggestions offered; to Mr. Frank I. Liveright, for consenting to have some of his beautiful and extremely rare pieces photographed and used to illustrate the text; to Mr. Julius Guttag, for the courtesy of allowing material from his work "Latin American Coins" to be included in this monograph; to the British Museum; to Messrs. Wayte Raymond, H. L. Hill, Ragnar L. Cederlund, Maurice Schulman, and others, for information and assistance rendered.

I am also grateful to the President and other officials of the American Numismatic Society, for the countless courtesies extended while this work was being prepared; and most deeply I am indebted to the Curator, Mr. Howland Wood, whose lot it was to review the manuscript, thus placing at my disposal and the public's his wide knowledge of numismatics in general and in particular that of the coinage of Mexico, Without the valuable cooperation of Mr. Wood and his vast stores of information, this work would have been ~~most deficient.~~

A. F. Pradeau.

PREFACE

In the compilation of this work all available information has been used and the source acknowledged. I wish to record my special thanks to Mrs. Adelaide Gillis McCormick for access to her wonderful collection of Mexican coins, and for valuable suggestions offered; to Mr. Frank I. Liveright for kindly permitting me to photograph some of his beautiful and extremely rare pieces to illustrate the text; and to Mr. Julius Guttag for his courtesy in allowing material from his work on "Latin American Coins" as well as from his collection, to be included in this monograph. I am also indebted to The British Museum, Mr. Wayte Raymond, Mr. H. L. Hill, Mr. Ragnar L. Cederlund, Mr. Maurice Schulman and others for information and assistance rendered.

I am also grateful to the ~~President and other officials~~ American Museum of the ~~Society~~ Society for undertaking the publication of this work, and most of all to the Curator, Howland Wood, who became my collaborator and thus placed at my disposal and the public's his wide knowledge of the coinage of Mexico.

A.F.P.

Could add few words make it stronger - if don't have [illegible]

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

August 17, 1937.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

The long silence was occasioned by not having definite news for you, but you may rest assured I have not forgotten you.

In dealing with the Zacatecas provisional coins we say:

"This type of coinage was struck between Sept. 3, 1811 and March 26, 1813. They bear no assayer's initials and, as a rule, specimens found are much worn. They often carry counterstamps of other localities*

* The American Numismatic Society has an 8 reales piece of 1812 of this type, but with the bust of Ferdinand draped in toga instead of cuirass."

Could you tell me the year this coined was minted?

Following your suggestion I wrote to Mr. Raymond of your city and he is willing to handle the whole issue on commission basis, which he lowered to 33-1/3 % - To-day, I heard from Spink & Sons and they believe they could dispose of not more than 50 copies, on consignment, charging 50 % for selling it. If the selling price is $ 5.00, it costs 2.50 to produce it; 2.50 to sell it; about 50 cents for shipment, and I am left holding the bag, not only with the unsold copies but with the expenses incurred as well. This is poor, very poor business.

Not a single firm on the Pacific Coast is doing the gelatine process and it has become necessary to write to Meridian for quotations. They arrived to-day and they are 15.00 per plate in 500 lots; 20.65 per plate in lots of one thousand. These figures increase the cost of the plates to twice the amount figured, as the half tones were quoted as 8.20 per plate -

It seems to me that the numismatic world is not very eager to acquire newer information and I have a good mind of chucking the whole thing.

During the last few weeks I have done considerable study and I have come to the conclusion that the coins of the Congreso Americano were minted at Angangueo, Zitácuaro, by order of Don Ignacio López Rayón. This is the mint reported as being heretofore unheard of. What is your reaction?

Many thanks for the courtesy of an answer,

A. F. Pradeau

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.,
756 S. Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

August 20, 1937

Dear Doctor Pradeau:

The Zacatecas provisional with the bust in toga, is dated 1812. I had trouble locating the piece as I had it as an Hacienda counterstamp. Just for an additional check-up I am sending it to you to examine as the piece is so poor that I would like verification. The outline of the bust certainly indicates the toga type. In the proper place on the reverse you can make out the ROVISIO DE PROVISIONAL which would certaibly fix it.

I was in to see Wayte Raymond the other day and he mentioned he had been in correspondence with you. If he handles your book, I think he would handle it for this country and Europe, as well as for the rest of the world, unless you make a deal with him about Mexico. I very much doubt if you could sell 500 copies. I think you would have the bulk left on your hands. We were figuring on between 2 and 300. We never figure on making any money and generally figure on losing money, but as we have an endowment for printing it makes no difference to us.

If you can get good halftones made, and get them well printed, go ahead and do so. Unfortunately I mounted the plates not bothering with the background so that the engraver will either have to silhouette each coin or spend some time in putting new background on the photo mounts.

I trust you will not chuck the whole thing, especially after the labor that has been put into it. It is really better to sell out the edition than to have two or three hundred left on your hands. Why not figure on say 250 or 300 copies?

I am glad you have made the find of the new mint. I really have no basis to say whether you are right or wrong. You are probably right.

Is it correct that the 1935 50¢ piece is copper, silver plated?

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

September 4, 1937.

My dear Mr. Wood:

With your letter of August 20th I received the 8 Rs. Provisional of Zacatecas. I agree with you that it indicates the toga type of bust. Many thanks for sending it to me. I am now returning it.

Mr. Raymond has been most kind in offering suggestions and I have not answered his last letter yet, as I have nothing new to communicate to him. However, from what I have learned it seems very remote that I shall have the work printed in the very near future. I have finished re-writing it and I have made quite a few additions. For instance I have incorporated in this part of the work the Empire of Iturbide, which means one more plate and five more pages. As soon as I finish with the index I am going to try a printer in Mexico City and by having the plates made in U.S.A. and the printing done there I may be able to save myself some money.

The 1935 fifty cent pieces of Mexico are not silver plated copper pieces. I have cut three or four and they all are made of silver, except that it is about 420 fineness. Officially I have not been able to have this debasing confirmed, but I understand that happened when United States were raising the price of silver to 85 cents an ounce. I am after the information and as soon as I obtain it will let you know.

Please excuse the delay in answering but for the last two weeks I have not felt well.

Sometime ago I received a letter from Mr. Newell, which has remained unanswered because I have been dickering with the Mexican Government and more recently with the new Numismatic Association of Mexico and was in hopes of having some good news to convey to him. So far my efforts have proven futile.

Have you seen the Mexican medals commemorating the fourth centennary of the opening of the mint? They were released the 11th of August. 300 in silver and 600 in bronze. The dates inscribed therein are 1536-1936. So, we won the argument. This part of the monograph was also changed as there was no reason for my remarks.

Very truly yours,

A. F. Pradeau

Sept. 9, 1937

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.,
75 6 S. Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

I am drawing up a check list of 20th Century coins, that is, starting with 1901 to date.

I have made a tentative list of the Mexican pieces which I am enclosing. Would you mind going through this and see if I have left out any dates or types? The Revolutionary end I think I know as much as anyone about so I am not sending this to you.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW
encl.

Sept. 15, 1937

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Bldg.
756 S. Broadway
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

Your letter of the 4th was on my desk when I reached here this morning. I trust you will be able to print your book somehheres but if printed in English in Mexico you may have to pay duty on it; therefore I think there would be less duty if they sent the printed matter to you unbound and you have it bound in this country. If printed in Spanish, it would come in without duty in any shape.

I am glad to know about the 1935 silver pieces and your cut piece proves to me that it is not plated but simply low-grade silver. Possibly they plated the planchettes just the same so that it would look better than it really is.

This also acknowledges receipt of the Provisional Zacatecas piece which you returned.

I am sorry to learn that you have been under the weather the past two weeks.I looked pretty badly myself but felt all right. I happened to catch from somewheres empetigo.

I have just gotten the bronze and silver copy of the Mexican medals and noted the date it bears, 1536, so you have won out.

You probably have received by this time the letter I wrote last week asking help on some recent Mexican coins.

I beg to remain,

Very truly yours,

HW ks

Curator

CALIFORNIA COIN CLUB
LOS ANGELES
Organized: January 1928

Member:
American Numismatic Association

Office of the Secretary

Meets First Tuesday
Every Month

Sept. 20, 1937.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

Your letter of the 15th has just reached me. I am now getting a sample of the half tone plates made. The charge is a little under nine dollars each.

The list attached to your letter of the 9th is being returned and you will note I have made quite a few additions on the silver, one on the nickel, and one or two on the bronze.

I notice that you state that 50 centavos pieces of 1935 were minted in 3 United States mints. Have you tried to obtain from them the fineness of the metal used? Or is it against the rules of the mint to divulge this information? Please let me know, as I have not been able to get results from Mexico. As you probably know they like to take their time in replying this or any other question, frequently, failing to answer at all.

I started to give you the total amount coined but upon second thought stopped doing it, but if you happen to need this information, remember that I am able to supply it up to and including 1934.

It is my understanding that the tiny one and two centavo pieces are distinctly revolutionary issue, even though they were minted in Mexico City by Zapata.

Sincerely yours,

A. T. Radeau

Sept. 30, 1937

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.,
756 S. Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

Your letter of the 20th at hand. I am glad that you are still going on with the Mexican article.

Many thanks for the corrections and additions on the Mexican notes. This is just what I wanted. I will write Miss ('Reilly at the Mint to see if I can find out the alloy of the 50¢ pieces of 1935.

I have always understood that thos two small 2 and 1 centavo pieces were struck by Zapata in Mexico City. I did not include them in my Revolutionary coins as at that time I was not sure. Also, I sort of considered that being struck in Mexico City they were not quite in the same class with the pieces struck outside. Also, whèle he was in the capital he might be considered/de facto government. Offouarse I may be wrong in this conclusion.

I am enclosing a letter that we cannot very well answer here. I was wondering if you could give the Puerto Rico people the information they desire, based on your knowledge of the exchange values of the same pieces in Mexico at that time. If so, you might write them direct, stating that we had turned the letter over to you. If you do not feel inclined, please return the letter to us.

In the Revista Numismatica, the official organ of the Brazilian Numismatic Society, appears a long article by Fosalba on Los Cuartillos y Contramarcas de la Reconquista Dominicana. Unfortunately it is not illustrated. I have not as yet read it through as it was handed to me only an hour ago.

Again thanking you for what you did on the Mexican notes, I remain

Very sincerely,

Curator

HW ks
encl.

Oct. 7, 1937

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Bldg.
756 S. Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

I have just heard from the Treasury Dept. and the Mexican half dollars made at the Mint in 1935 were of fineness .420.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 Chapman Building
756 South Broadway
Los Angeles

October 8, 1937.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

The letter ~~to~~ from the official historian of Porto Rico was answered yesterday. I thought you might like to know.

If you get the information from the mint will you be so kind as to convey it to me? Many thanks.

Would you like to lend me the Revista Numismatica in which the article by Fosalba appears? I would appreciate it very much, will take good care of it and return it to you as soon as possible.

About the 50 centavos coins of 1922. The mint records, which by the way are quite accurate for the last few years, do not show any mintage for that particular year. This morning I looked through a couple hundred pieces and I did not find one for 1922. I still have two or three hundred more and as soon as convenient I shall look them over. Would you believe it possible for Mr. Guttag or his cataloguer to be mistaken? If I should find a 1922 I shall let you know at once.

I did not mean to convey the thought that you were wrong in your conclusions about the tiny one and two centavo copper pieces of Mexico, and as long as it is mentioned that Zapata was the one responsible for their emission I do not think it makes very much difference whether he was or was not the de facto government. I am sorry.

You are right about the change of the pesos and as you say it applies to the smaller denominations only.

Nothing new about the monograph yet. I am bidding my time.

Yours very truly,

A F Pradeau

Fosalba 20.T 11/15/37

Oct. 13, 1937

Dr. A. F. Pradeau
805 Chapman Bldg.
756 Broadway S.
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

You have received by this time my letters stating the finness of the last Mexican silver piece. I am sending you today Fosalba's article.

I trust you have recovered from your indisposition and again feel as fit as a fiddle.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW kx

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

October 26, 1937.

My dear Mr. Wood:-

I am enclosing two pages of the Republican copper coinage of San Luis Potosi which you are welcome to keep if you wish. It is interesting to note that Scott only lists two varieties and I found four; also that the government only reports coinage of the fourth type for the years 1877-78.

Would you be so kind as to verify the dates on all four issues? There is a probability of having more issues, but naturally my collection not being so extensive as that of the Society I was not able to list them. If you find something new, please let me know.

Will you check my statement that the first issue only had pieces of one-eighth of a real denomination and give me the dates of the specimens seen or on hand?

Many thanks for the information about the fifty centavos silver coins of Mexico, also for the loan of the Brazilian Numismatic Bulletin with which I expect to be through very shortly.

The Meriden Gravure Co. manufacturers of the full tone collotype have a representative on the Pacific Coast and probably next Thursday I shall decide upon the publication of the monograph.

Permit me to thank you in advance for the courtesy asked of you in this letter.

Sincerely yours,

A. F. Pradeau

I am feeling much better now; thanks

VANDIKE 8483

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

November 2, 1937.

My dear Mr. Wood:

It was indeed nice of you to check my list of coppers for the San Luis Potosi mint, and I am pleasantly surprised to find there is still another variety, that of 1862, similar to the State issue, but with the legend Republica Mexicana.

Somewhat enthusiatically I have canvassed my friends in this city for a specimen and not being successful I am again calling on you. Would it be asking a lot if I tried to borrow this piece of your museum? My purpose is to have it photographed, but if you care to have it done there, would you, if willing, have four prints made for me. I promise to reimburse you with the cost.

I have good news for you. The engraver, using zinc plates, 120 screen, has 24 plates, (your 23 and one more for the Iturbide coinage) and I expect them within 2 weeks. I am enclosing a sample, made from the poorest of the plates. What is your opinion?

To-day I was to send the manuscript to the printer, but I was not able to have it ready, so I am postponing it a day or two. The whole thing has been re-written and I have arranged it a little different. For instance the notes on the silver, gold and copper coinage have been incorporated to the respective kings. I thought that it would be a little smoother reading that way.

Let me beg your indulgence for not returning the Brazilian journal yet. The truth of the matter is that I am not through reading the whole magazine. I find it extremely interesting.

If you know of a specimen of the copper piece, S.L.P. 1862, for sale, please buy it for me, and you will get your money by return mail. Many thanks for your repeated courtesies,

A. F. Pradeau

Pradeam Hillscrim

7 3/4 LCV

not cst under
the 7 3/4

Nov. 4, 1937

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.
756 Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

Your letter just at hand and I am having photographs made of that 1862 San Louis Potosi piece as we are photographing tomorrow.

Hill was in yesterday and showed me again that photograph of the L C V piece with 7-3/4 on the back. Examine~~tion~~ this photograph closely and I think you will find an indistinct counterstamp just below the 7-3/4. It looks to me like that slanting flag counterstamp with letters under the flag.

I consider the plate you sent on as a sample very good. Ordinarily the lines in the screen should be absolutely diagonal or x-shaped. On this they seem to be nearly vertical and horizontal. This may be due to the fact that one of the small coins just below the center may have been a half tone and they had to twist the screen as it is here. Carefully examine the other plates and see how the criss-cross lines in those are because when the lines are in the direction of the lines in an X you do not notice the screen as you do in the plate you sent on. Other than this I think you are having a very good job done.

I don't know how much of the manuscript that we sent back you used, because we made many changes of English and word phrasing that we think would make it read in a smoother manner. I am rather glad on the whole that you have incorporated the remarks on the gold, silver and copper coinage under the respective kings. Mr. Raymond was asking me about you the other day and was wondering how you were coming on and I told him that you were very busy in trying to get it printed.

Very truly yours,

Curator

hw ks

Nov. 8, 1937

Dr. A. F. Pradeau,
805 Chapman Bldg.,
756 S. Broadway,
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Dr. Pradeau:

Herewith are photographs of that San Louis Potosi quarter real piece. Some are taken from the coin and some from a plaster cast that I made. You may have these with our compliments as I worked them on a negative of other things.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks
encl.

DR. A. F. PRADEAU
805 CHAPMAN BUILDING
756 SOUTH BROADWAY
LOS ANGELES

Nov. 30, 1937.

Dear Mr. Wood:-

Received the photos of the San Luis Potosí piece and I wish to thank you for the courtesy. Since I wrote you I have obtained 3 specimens none of which is very good - I am enclosing a similar work on the copper coinage of Durango. Please look it over and if possible I would like to have you compare the information conveyed with your museum pieces and if it isn't too much trouble let me have your comments. I wish to add that excepting pieces Nos. 2 and 9 I have the others, and if you know of any of these two for sale, let me know.

Nothing further about the book and it is just as well as ten days ago I took the vows and I am now among the married.

Sincerely yours.

A. Pradeau

P.S. - I trust the Brazilian book arrived safely. Much obliged. The article by Fossalva was quite good.

Dec. 7, 1937

Dear Dr. Pradeau,

Congratulations! I trust everything will be most happy. Let us hope this new status in your life will not affect your interest in coins and stop the ultimate publication of your book!

The Brazilian magazine came back to us in good season. I am returning your list of Durango pieces and find we have nothing but what you already have.

I am enclosing a rubbing of a rather nice 1858 one we can photograph for you some time if it happens to be batter than yours. We have also a very nice No. 2 but have no No. 9's.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks
encl.